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'It's traumatic. It's sad.'

An independent inquiry will examine the Greens' handling of the sexual misconduct allegations levelled at Johnathan Davis.

REPORT: PAGE 8

EDITORIAL: LESSON SEEMS LOST ON GREENS: PAGE 24



Deputy Chief Minister Yvette Berry announced the inquiry. Picture by Karleen Minney

Consultant crackdown harms small business

Adrian Rollins

CANBERRA small businesses are being forced to lay off staff and restructuring their operations because of the federal government's crackdown on the use of consultants.

Business groups and advisors have reported that work for many small and medium enterprises is "drying up" as departments cut back sharply on external contractors.

Canberra Business Chamber chief executive officer Greg Harford said the situation had "reached a crunch point".

"We have got many small and medium business who primarily service the federal government and the message we are getting is that work is drying up," Mr Harford said. "We are in a position where businesses are looking to downsize or are asking staff to take leave without pay until business improves." "There are potentially hundreds of people across the ACT who could find that they are affected."

Report Page 6

Greens' pic warning

EXCLUSIVE

Jasper Lindell

THE young man whose claim of a sexual relationship with Johnathan Davis contributed to his resignation says he specifically raised with the Greens concerns the former politician had broken the law

by soliciting explicit pictures from him.

The young person, now 18, last week met with Greens leader Shane Rattenbury's executive chief of staff and another Greens staffer. He said he provided information about a sexual relationship with Mr Davis while he was

17, and evidence he had sent intimate images at Mr Davis's request.

At this Tuesday, November 7, meeting the man said he told the Greens that Mr Davis had requested the pictures while knowing the young person was under 18.

It is a Commonwealth

offence for a person to transmit, access or solicit child abuse material of a child aged under 18.

The law defines child abuse material to include depictions of a person under 18 engaged in an offensive sexual pose, or which depicts a sexual organ of a person

aged under 18 for a sexual purpose "in a manner which reasonable persons would regard as being, in all the circumstances, offensive".

It is unknown if Mr Davis knew that was an offence. Mr Davis declined, through a lawyer, to comment.

Continued Page 8

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NEWS

The Canberra Times

VOLUME 98 | NUMBER 32,309

TIMES PAST

November 15, 1966

On this day in 1966, The Canberra Times reported on a significant appointment in the [then] new Winston Churchill Fellowship. Churchill Fellows discover new ideas around the world and develop new approaches to current challenges. Fellows are funded to discover the latest innovations and best practice in any practical issue they care passionately about, anywhere in the world. In its second year, there was the first Aboriginal to be awarded a fellowship along with two Canberrans. The Aborigine was Mr Max Daniels of the Northern Territory who was a carpenter. He was planning to use his award to travel to Paupa and New Guinea, New Caledonia and New Zealand, observing the conduct of co-operative societies among developing people and the methods of home construction and boat building in these areas. Out of 49 award recipients, there were two Canberra people who received the award - Miss Cecily Gibson, a potter, and Mr Everett O'Neil, a phytotron engineer. Visit: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/11623662>



Muhammad Ali leaves court on Tuesday. Picture by Hannah Neale

Child says man 'hurt me'

Hannah Neale

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD who was indecently assaulted by a childcare worker said his abuser made him "feel scared and sad".

"Put Ali in jail for a reason and the reason why because it hurt me," the victim told his mother.

Muhammad Ali, of Scullin, was expressionless when the boy's mother tearfully read a victim impact statement out to the ACT Supreme Court on Tuesday.

In June, a jury found Ali, 30, guilty of committing an act of indecency on the boy in 2022 at a Canberra daycare centre.

However, Ali was acquitted of committing an act of indecency on another boy.

The jury was unable to reach a verdict on a third allegation involving a three-year-old girl, and was discharged after four days of

deliberations.

On Tuesday, the victim's mother told the court her son was "very shy, kind, polite and intelligent".

"He is the boy who enjoys playing with the girls, mostly because they let him, and ... pretend to be cats while the girls pretend to be mums," she said.

The mother said she "didn't factor in a paedophile in a daycare centre".

"I cannot put into words how much this makes me feel like a failure, I was unable to protect my own child," she told the court.

"I have experienced every emotion, the first of which was blaming myself for what occurred rather than blaming Ali."

Ali's barrister, James Sabharwal, argued against a period of imprisonment.

"This was an isolated act and it was a very short duration," Mr Sabharwal said.

Prosecutor Trent Hickey told the court there was a "huge" need for general deterrence.

Mr Hickey said it was difficult for young victims to come forward with allegations, and the crime was "even more difficult to detect".

During the trial, the court heard that on April 21 last year, the four-year-old boy told his mother Ali had been mean to him and his friends, and "touched his doodle".

This was the offence of which Ali was found guilty.

It was alleged around this time, another mother had noticed her daughter's genitals were red and inflamed.

The court heard the girl told her mother she had fallen on a metal climbing frame.

Shortly afterwards, the two women spoke at a birthday party, prompting the mother of the girl to ask

further questions.

It was alleged the girl then told her mother Ali had pulled her pants down, touched her private parts, and it "happened a lot".

The jury was unable to reach a unanimous decision on this allegation.

In a police interview previously played to the court, the three-year-old told officers Ali had also touched her older brother's "nu nu" during the same alleged incident.

Ali was found not guilty of allegations involving the brother.

Justice Belinda Baker is set to hand down her sentence next week.

Support is available for those who may be distressed. Phone Lifeline 13 11 14; Canberra Rape Crisis Centre 6247 2525; Bravehearts 1800 272 831; Blue Knot Foundation 1300 657 380.

TODAY'S WEATHER

CANBERRA Min 11 Max 26

Partly cloudy
Chance of any rain: 20%

CANBERRA AREA

Partly cloudy. Light winds becoming northwesterly 15 to 25km/h in the middle of the day, then light in the evening. UV Index predicted 9 [Very High].

LOTTERIES

Monday Lotto draw No. 4338: 29,

23, 16, 38, 27, 24. Supps: 21, 31.

Division 1: Not won

Division 2: \$5,108.20

Division 3: \$467.30

Division 4: \$25.70

Division 5: \$14.45

Division 6: \$11.70

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Infrastructure cuts could miss territory

Karen Barlow

Chief political correspondent

THE Albanese government has assured the ACT that there will be special consideration for smaller jurisdictions in its new infrastructure overhaul amid at least \$33 billion in cost overruns and ahead of expectations that the axe is about to swing on a range of federal projects.

Infrastructure and Transport Minister Catherine King has ordered a funding refocus as a way to boost accountability, avoid budget blowouts and stop the political practice of pork-barrelling. She has outlined how

the current 80:20 funding split will go and the states and territories will in the future pay for at least half of the big, long-term road and rail projects of "national significance".

The overhaul will also only include a federal tick-off if the commonwealth contribution is at least \$250 million, but there are considerations if the projects relate to the National Land Transport Network, freight routes, housing, or the extraction of critical minerals.

Independent ACT senator David Pocock has raised concerns about the ACT's underinvestment and lower

revenue raising capacity. Labor senator Murray Watt, representing Ms King in the Senate, sought to allay those fears.

"As you've noted, Ms King has made that statement that there may be some provision for smaller jurisdictions which have funding constraints," he told Parliament.

"Obviously, those kinds of details will need to be worked through with those particular jurisdictions. And I'd be happy to talk with you further about that Senator Pocock as those details ironed out."

In the minister's earlier statement, she said the com-

monwealth was "returning to a preference of 50:50 funding with the states and territories for future investments, so both levels of government carry an equal share of both the benefits and the risks."

"The government may consider funding a greater share of projects in jurisdictions with less capacity to raise revenue on a case-by-case basis."

Senator Watt also said Ms King and her officials and "quite possibly other members of our government" have spoken to all states and territories about the overhaul.

"You're probably aware

in this year's budget ... the Australian government committed \$476.4 million towards major infrastructure projects in the ACT over the 10 years from the [years] 23-24. That funding remains in place," he said.

It comes as a review of federal infrastructure spending commitments, led by former Infrastructure secretary Mike Mrdak, finds \$33 billion in cost overruns. The government is poised, likely this week, to cut a range of federal infrastructure projects in an effort to ease inflation, with talks underway with states and territories to determine spending priorities.

Ms King said there was a "high chance" of finding yet more overruns.

"This is a stunning amount of money," she said.

"They found that it would simply not be possible to deliver the current 10-year pipeline of projects within the \$120 billion Commonwealth allocation."

But the opposition said it was concerned that regional communities and local councils would lose out with a shift from the 80:20 funding split.

Opposition spokesperson Darren Chester said many regional projects would be unviable.

Tribunal orders school car park to close

Sarah Lansdown

A PRIVATE school car park will be closed at the end of the term and demolished within a year if it doesn't get development approval.

The ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal heard Brindabella Christian College went against the sublease conditions and zoning rules when it sealed a gravel car park adjacent to its Lyneham campus in late 2016 without development approval.

The Lyneham Community Association made an application to the ACT government for a controlled activity order, which was refused. The association then appealed the matter in the tribunal.

The Association said the car park was unsafe for pedestrians, especially students walking to school, but the ACT government argued there would safety risks if the car park was closed due to increased traffic congestion.

Senior Member Michael Orlov said the use of the area as a car park and as a school drop off point would cease from the last day of Term 4.

He ordered access to entrance to the car park to be blocked by a locked chain or steel bollard by the end of term and for the verge crossing to be demolished and footpath be reinstated by the beginning of the next school year.

He said the car park would need to be demolished within 12 months from the date of the order, unless the college obtained development approval for the use of the land as a car park or another use.



ANU PhD researcher Murraya Lane has spent months tracking koalas. Picture by Sithixay Dithavong.

Koalas show resilience in fire-affected areas

Natalie Vikhrov

A PROMISING new study has found koalas are able to survive in fire-affected areas but its researcher has warned against complacency amid fears of a dangerous bushfire season ahead.

ANU PhD researcher Murraya Lane has spent months tracking rehabilitated koalas that have been returned to the wild near Cooma in New South Wales, after the 2019-20 fires ravaged the area.

The research has been promising. Ms Lane found that not only were koalas able to eat epicormic growth of various eucalyptus

species but that they were also in good health.

"We found that released koalas and resident koalas living in a burnt landscape can utilise a burnt area," she told reporters during a briefing at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve koala breeding facility.

"We didn't just see them survive but we saw bubs come out of the pouch, get onto the back and then become independent all during that tracking study."

Ms Lane also said many koalas that survived nearby were "doing well" and were still breeding, although they did have chlamydia. But she

warned that the positive findings did not mean there was room for complacency. It comes as Australia is preparing to move into an El Nino summer, which is expected to cause heatwaves and further bushfires.

"We did see some sort of level of tolerance and resilience in that population, and I don't want people to get complacent," Ms Lane warned. "We need to work really hard on conserving our wildlife and these animals are at risk of disturbance processes like bushfires and habitat fragmentation."

Her warnings were

echoed by Australian Conservation Foundation nature campaigner Peta Bulling, who said koalas were in an "extinction crisis".

"Deforestation is dramatically affecting these koalas, as is climate change as they're becoming increasingly heat stressed and threatened by fires," she said. She said reforming Australia's national environment was key.

"Unless ... everybody stands up to protect them and there is nationally enshrined protections for these animals, we will lose them and I think we can all agree that would be such a terrible

outcome," she said.

Meanwhile, ecologist and Nature Conservation office koala spokesperson Jaimie Hopkins said they were undertaking a monitoring survey to identify whether there were any koalas - or Gula - resident in the wild within the ACT. "We're putting out some acoustic recorders and it's hoped that if we do have Gula here, the recordings will pick up their bellows," Dr Hopkins said.

"Once we then have a better understanding of whether or not we do actually have populations here, we can look at better ways to conserve the populations."

Phillip pool opens as others swamped

Megan Doherty

BELGRAVIA Leisure, the new manager of five of Canberra's public pools, has refused to blame a shortage of lifeguards for patrons of the Dickson Aquatic Centre being subject to a "one in, one out" procedure to get into the centre during last weekend's above-30-degree temperatures.

That's despite the previous long-term managers of Dickson pool saying that, other than during COVID times, that situation had never happened during their 26-year tenure.

"We would always staff up for hot days - all hands on deck," former spokeswoman for the Dickson pool Taryn Langdon said.

In the meantime, the Phillip swimming pool, now owned by Geocon, has finally re-opened to swimmers after being shut for the past two summers.

A lunch-time swimmer, who asked not to be named, was thrilled that it had finally re-opened to the public from last Wednesday.

"It's great to have a pool

in the south that is a 50-metre pool and it's outside," he said.

"I swim most days but this is the first time I've been here in two years because it was closed the last two summers. Lovely to have it back."

Belgravia Leisure in September was appointed as the new operator for five of

the ACT government-owned pools, at Civic, Gungahlin, Stromlo, Tuggeranong and Dickson, following a public tender process.

Twice over the weekend, Belgravia had to enact a "one in, one out" process at Dickson, saying "we have reached capacity in the venue" as temperatures soared.

When asked for a clear answer on whether it had enough lifeguards or not, Belgravia confirmed it was still recruiting lifeguards but refused to say not having enough lifeguards on the weekend was the problem.

"I can confirm that Belgravia Leisure was indeed meeting all requirements of

the Guidelines to Safe Pool Operations (GSPO) to ensure the safety of patrons at Dickson Pool over the weekend. To maintain adherence to these guidelines, the lifeguards used the one in, one out policy. This is a standard practice that happens at most busy pools which are working under the GSPO

over summer," a spokeswoman said.

"We pride ourselves on maintaining industry best practice for safety, and the safety of our patrons is always our primary objective. Our team continues to work hard on deck every day to ensure a safe and enjoyable day out for all.

"We can confirm that all is still on track to open the doors to our guests as per our advertised timetable, and our intention is that all pools will open at full capacity. We are still recruiting, but our expectation is that we will have enough trained lifeguards to cover the operating needs of summer."

When asked if that meant the company had to hire more lifeguards to prevent the one-in, one-out procedure, the spokeswoman said: "Safety is our highest priority and even with a full complement of lifeguards, if the number of patrons within the venue gets to a level that compromises our ability to safely supervise and manage the pool, then we will enact the 'one in, one out' procedure".



Phillip pool has re-opened to the public after being closed for the last two summers. Picture by Sithixay Dittthavong

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AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS DIRECTORATE Annual threat assessment

Severe cyber incidents continue to rise

Miriam Webber

AUSTRALIA'S critical infrastructure was hit with five severe cyber security incidents in 2022-23, up from two the year prior, the Australian Signals Directorate has warned.

The intelligence agency's annual threat assessment reported the five attacks, classed as Category 2 incidents, included "significant data breaches involving cybercriminals exfiltrating data from critical infrastructure for the purposes of financial gain". Category 2 incidents represent threats of the sec-

ond-highest severity, on a scale from one (the most severe) to six (the least). There were no Category 1 incidents recorded.

Though all the data was de-identified, the intelligence agency did reveal the five threats targeted federal government systems, regulated critical infrastructure, national security systems and systems of national significance.

The agency responded to 1134 cyber security incidents in total in the 2022-23 financial year, a similar number to 2021-22, which it reported

as "over 1100". The severity of threats remained similar, with 15 per cent of incidents considered as Category 3 or above.

The federal and state governments reported the highest proportion of incidents, at 30.7 per cent and 12.9 per cent, though the report notes these sectors have reporting obligations.

Reported cybercrimes against Australian businesses and individuals grew for the fourth year in a row, jumping another 23 per cent in the last financial year. The intelligence agency

received 94,000 reports of cybercrimes in the 2022-23 financial year, climbing from 76,000 in 2021-22.

A cybercrime was reported once every 10 minutes on average in June 2020, when the agency launched its inaugural threat assessment, but frequency has increased to once every six minutes on average, in the latest report.

"Cyber criminals constantly evolve their operations against Australian organisations and are fuelled by a global industry of access, brokers and extortionists," ASD director-general Rachel

Noble said in a statement. "Ransomware remained a highly destructive cybercrime, along with business and email compromise and denial of service attacks."

Ransomware, a type of extortion where cybercriminals encrypt data or a system and demand payment in return for encryption keys, made up about 10 per cent of cyber security incidents last financial year. The ASD director-general urged Australians to follow steps to "improve our country's cyber security", including keeping software up-to-date, using strong

passphrases, turning on multifactor authentication and backing up important data.

"The Australian Signals Directorate remains committed to assisting Australians to make our country a hard cyber target," Ms Noble said. "This includes using all of our capabilities and legal powers to: collect the best possible foreign intelligence to inform our cyber defences; provide free cyber defence services to all Australians; and use our offensive cyber capabilities to deny, degrade, disrupt and destroy cyber criminals."

More than 5000 ACT public homes set to get help to save on power bills

EXCLUSIVE

Karen Barlow

Chief political correspondent

AROUND half of the ACT's entire stock of public homes are set to receive energy-efficiency upgrades such as electric stoves and better insulation through a \$35.2 million federal and territory

partnership flowing from the May budget's \$1.65 billion energy savings package.

The Albanese and ACT governments on Wednesday will announce that more than 5000 public homes, known for older builds and being among the most energy inefficient in Australia, will be upgraded.

Data from the Productivity Commission's annual reports on government services shows the ACT has 10,744 public housing properties.

The ACT government is contributing \$28 million while the commonwealth is contributing \$7.2 million from a \$300 million national

funding pool for social housing.

Energy Minister Chris Bowen said it is a cost-of-living measure as it will reduce power bills for people who can least afford energy leaking out the door.

"We're delighted to invest with the ACT in critical energy upgrades that will

help deliver more affordable power bills to over 5000 social housing properties," he said in a statement.

The properties that will be targeted do not meet minimum energy efficiency standards.

Some of the possible upgrades include removing and replacing appliances

such as switching off gas, better hot water, installing electric stoves, and changing over air conditioning.

The co-funding shifts and expands into a second phase the ACT Home Energy Support: Public Housing Program. Prior to federal involvement, it had already upgraded 300 public homes.



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Call for public submissions Twenty-Year Review

In 2023, the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force (IGADF) marks its twentieth year of operation.

The IGADF, Secretary of the Department of Defence and Chief of the Defence Force have jointly appointed former Justice, the Hon Duncan Kerr Chev LH SC to conduct a review of the Office of the IGADF. Mr Dennis Richardson AC will also assist the review.

The review's terms of reference are to:

- review the basis by which the statutory office is established, and
- consider and make findings and recommendations, as appropriate, about the functions, operation and composition of the office established to support the IGADF.

Mr Kerr will deliver his report to the IGADF, Secretary and CDF by 31 March 2024.

Members of the public can make submissions by visiting the Twenty-Year Review's webpage: <https://www.igadf.gov.au/igadf-twenty-year-review> or by scanning the QR code.



Submissions close at 11:59 AEDT on Thursday 30 November 2023.

2504KL 4427

ECONOMY Gutting public service of contractors puts strain on businesses

Contractor clamp drives SMEs to brink

Adrian Rollins

Economics correspondent

CANBERRA small businesses are being forced to lay off staff and restructuring their operations because of the federal government's crackdown on the use of consultants.

Business groups and advisors have reported that work for many small and medium enterprises is "drying up" as departments cut back sharply on external contractors.

Canberra Business Chamber chief executive officer Greg Harford said the situation had "reached a crunch point".

"We have got many small and medium business who primarily service the federal government and the message we are getting is that work is drying up," Mr Harford said. "We are in a position where businesses are looking to downsize or are asking staff to take leave without pay until business improves."

"There are potentially hundreds of people across the ACT who could find that they are affected by this."

Business strategist Ryan Murphy, managing director on Canberra-based Australian Corporate Advisory, said one of his clients had been forced to lay off a third of its 30 staff.

Mr Murphy said 80 per cent of his clientele was in Canberra, including some employing up to 50 workers, and many derived most or all of their business from the government.

"What we are seeing is that there are delays [in awarding work] as a result of policy changes in procurement," he said.

"Things have just stopped or firms are having to re-ten-

der. Federal government policy allows them to source work up to a certain value without needing to go to open tender and that is not being used much any more.

"Where this hits the road for our clients is that it puts significant strain on their cash flow. Consulting businesses generally have high direct labour costs that are not easy to switch off overnight."

Labor came to office with a policy to reduce the government's reliance on external consultants which Public Service Minister Katy Gallagher said had got "out of balance" under the Coalition.

An audit found the previous government spent \$20.8 billion outsourcing a third

of public service operations in 2021-22, alone, including engaging consultants and contractors the equivalent of almost 54,000 full time staff.

The Albanese government abolished the average staffing level cap and in the May budget it announced the conversion of 3300 external roles into public service positions which Senator Gallagher said would save \$811 million over four years.

And late last month the government unveiled the APS Strategic Commissioning Framework to "wind back excessive outsourcing and its impacts on the skills held and used in APS agencies".

"All agencies must move away from outsourcing work that is the core role of the

APS ... to prioritise direct employment, strengthen capability and ensure any use of external expertise enhances the work and knowledge of the APS," the framework said.

The push has come amid the scandal that engulfed consultancy PwC after it was revealed it used confidential government information to advise clients on managing their tax liabilities.

A spokesperson for Senator Gallagher said the government had been upfront about its plans to reduce the APS's reliance on consultants and contractors and "we are now delivering on that promise".

The spokesperson said the government would outsource work in some

circumstances but under the former Coalition government "this got completely out of balance and was costing taxpayers billions of dollars".

The government changed procurement rules last year to ensure more opportunities for SMEs, requiring they be awarded 20 per cent of business by value and this was also a key pillar of its Buy Australian Plan, the spokesperson said.

But Mr Harford said small and medium enterprises were being hit by the "fallout" from the government's crackdown on the use of major consultancies like the big four, including PwC, KPMG, Deloitte and EY.

"I don't think the federal government has been

intending to put the squeeze on SMEs in Canberra," he said. "I don't believe the government has been actively meaning to do this, but there has been some over-zealous interpretation of their message [by departments and agencies]."

Mr Harford detailed the sector's concerns in a letter to Senator Gallagher on November 7.

Mr Murphy said the government's policy could prove costly to taxpayers. "The impact on the taxpayer in the long term will be the loss of SMEs who are essential as they apply pricing pressure to the market," he said. "Only the big four and large firms have the cashflow to sustain this policy change."



Corporate advisor Ryan Murphy says small ACT businesses are getting smashed by consultant cutbacks. Picture by Gary Ramage

Tax office defends Barton move despite shrinking office

Justine Landis-Hanley

THE Australian Taxation Office says its new Barton office will allow the agency to grow its workforce, despite being almost half the size of its current Canberra premises.

The federal parliament's public works committee dropped a report on Tuesday backing the proposed \$125.8 million fit-out of the ATO's new Sydney Avenue office.

Canberra-based ATO staff are currently spread out across two office spaces on Narellan Street and Genge

Street, the leases of which will expire in May and November 2027 respectively.

The new single premises, leased on a 15-year contract, is just 33,521 square metres - 48 per cent smaller than the agency's current floor plan of 64,000 square metres across the two offices.

The tax office acknowledged this is a "significant reduction" in floor space, requiring a "significant program of rightsizing and ensuring that we use official accommodation efficiently".

The agency told the com-

mittee that while some of its 2535 existing staff are expected to work from home, the fit-out will need to support a growing workforce.

"We have seen significant growth in the ATO workforce across a number of sites, and because we are a national agency, that means that we can then use the flexibility in sites such as Barton, where it has been built to grow the workforce within that site," the agency told the committee at its September hearing.

"We're looking at surging our workforce at the mo-

ment as a result of a number of measures that the government is looking for us to deliver over the coming four years."

In response to staff feedback, the ATO said the six-level office will include 100 per cent sit-to-stand workstations, an open plan workspace to ensure better access to natural light, breakout rooms, and noise management like acoustic barriers between work banks.

The agency told the public works committee that, on receiving parliamentary ap-

proval, it would undertake several measures to further engage staff in the fit out.

These include holding regular meetings with working group representatives to discuss the project, creating a project-specific intranet staff with regular updates, and providing prototype furniture for staff to test and give feedback on.

The parliamentary committee said that it was satisfied with the project's "purpose, need and value for money", but continued to caution the ATO to monitor

the impact that relocating from Canberra's central commercial district will have on the local economy and staff travel times.

The move has sparked concern from civic businesses, who warned that the relocation to Barton will remove one of their major customer sources.

The ACT has previously tried to reassure worried business owners, saying that office space in Civic remains in high demand and the number of residents in the area is growing.

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Young man raised abuse material concerns with Greens

From Page 1

Mr Rattenbury on Monday said the former Greens member told him he believed he had done nothing illegal.

Mr Rattenbury, who is the ACT's Attorney-General, on Monday said the party was aware of the claims intimate images had been shared with Mr Davis by the young person.

"We considered the legislation, certainly ACT law. We were not able to identify any offences, but again, acknowledging the complexity of the matter and particularly the suggestion of the sharing of intimate images, that was another reason we felt it was appropriate and important to report these matters to ACT Policing," he said.

Mr Rattenbury on Tuesday said the material shared with the party by the young person was not clear and "not evidently illegal in nature".

"My office sought advice from CMTEDD in relation to our reporting obligations, including a specific reference to possible explicit images, even though it was not clear that that's what was provided to us," he said in a statement to *The Canberra Times*.

"However, given we are not an investigative authority we took the decision to refer the material to police."

The young person claims Mr Davis asked in January 2023 for naked pictures, at a time Mr Davis knew the young person was underage. Screenshots, seen by *The Canberra Times*, separately show the young person

sending Mr Davis an image of a COVID test result, which listed his birth date, and show he was 17 when the pair began a relationship.

The young person was described as "the principle source of intelligence" in an internal party review, released on Monday, about Mr Davis' behaviour.

On another occasion Mr

Davis and the young person discussed the young person's age and Mr Davis said he was "cool with it" when the young person confirmed he had been 17 when they met.

Mr Rattenbury's chief of staff wrote in a report he was uncertain whether any illegal activity had occurred.

"This now eighteen-year-old stressed how important it

was to him to remain anonymous, that he had exams, and that he did not want the police involved. As I was unclear whether illegal conduct had occurred - relating to the exchanging of possible intimate images involving a person under the age of 18, and unsubstantiated allegations of other relationships with children younger than 16 - I

felt obligated to report the information to the police," the report, released publicly by the Greens on Monday, said.

The young person said Mr Davis had been in contact with him via a messaging app as recently as last weekend, but the politician blocked him, removing access to their conversation at some point before 10am on Monday, November 6.

An account of the timeline, released by the Greens, showed Mr Davis was informed of potential allegations at 8.40am on Monday, November 6.

The chief of staff wrote he reported the complaint to police about 10am on Friday, November 10. Police advised the party they needed to provide the details of the young person, who would then be contacted and supported.

The young person said he was contacted twice by police on Friday but has not proceeded with a formal complaint.

Police are understood to be unable to proceed with an investigation without a formal complaint from a person claiming to be a victim of Mr Davis.

Greens leader Shane Rattenbury, pictured on Monday addressing the media. Picture by Karleen Minney



Inquiry to examine allegation handling

Jasper Lindell

AN INDEPENDENT inquiry will be established to examine the handling of allegations made against Johnathan Davis, who was accused of having sex with a minor and an inappropriate, but not illegal, relationship with a 17 year old.

Deputy Chief Minister Yvette Berry said she had been speaking with Greens leader Shane Rattenbury and Opposition Leader Elizabeth Lee, and intended to seek tripartisan agreement on the form of the inquiry.

"Of course, this has been incredibly distressing news to find that a member of this Assembly has behaved in a way that is not at the level that the community or our govern-

ment would expect," Ms Berry said.

Ms Berry, who is acting Chief Minister while Andrew Barr is on leave, said she was concerned the Greens did not alert Mr Barr's office as soon as they launched an internal investigation into allegations levelled at Mr Davis.

"I would have hoped that [Mr Rattenbury] had confidence in the Chief Minister's office that he could have or his party could have reported this serious issue to the Chief Minister's office," she said.

Ms Berry said Labor's issues were on what happened when the allegations were first brought to the party, rather than what the party had done following its internal investigation.

Ms Berry said the government intended to set up an inquiry with clear and concise terms of reference, examine what has happened and improve Assembly processes in the future.

"I don't want anything to drag out. As I said, this has been a very serious matter. It's traumatic. It's sad on many levels. I want to just focus on the issues at hand and try not to have it drag on for too long," she said.

Ms Berry said she would meet with Assembly Speaker Joy Burch later on Tuesday afternoon, and was having ongoing conversations with Ms Lee and Mr Rattenbury.

"Understandably, of course, the community has a range of questions that they want answered and we want a government that

the community can have confidence in and that will be my aim going forward, getting agreement on an inquiry so that the community can have confidence in its parliament," she said.

Ms Berry said the relationship between ACT Labor and the Greens would be "bruised" as a result of the handling of the allegations made against Mr Davis.

The ACT Greens sought support from the Chief Minister's Directorate to handle the fallout from allegations levelled at one of its members before telling the Chief Minister's office about the issue, Mr Rattenbury said on Tuesday.

But he rejected suggestions allegations against Mr Davis were kept from him.

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NEWS

EDUCATION Calls for cheaper childcare, a year of parental leave to benefit families

Advocates push for \$10 a day childcare

Sarah Lansdown

AN EARLY childhood guarantee enshrined in law could bring childcare costs to \$10 per day and increase paid parental leave to 52 weeks within 10 years, advocates say.

The Minderero Foundation is leading the push for national legislation that would make all children and families entitled to universal access to maternal health services and three days a week of low-cost quality early education for the two years before school.

Thrive by Five campaign

manager Jay Weatherill said Australia could aim to follow the Canadian model where families would pay \$10 per day for childcare.

"It's a rare public policy that ticks so many boxes at the same time," Mr Weatherill said.

"The three things that are most spoken about cost of living, workforce shortages, and productivity. This ticks each of those boxes."

The proposed bill would establish a joint statutory body between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments that would be

responsible for delivering the measures.

Mr Weatherill said currently the responsibility for early childhood development fell across various portfolios and includes the tax and transfer system, parental leave, preschool, childcare centres and child protection.

"Once you've put this in place, once you set this standard, you set up this body, you have the vision, even we acknowledge that it'll take 10 years at least to build out the system," he said.

"We imagine that there

will be agreements reached between the Commonwealth and the various state and territory restrictions to roll this agenda out over the period and obviously ACT has made a start, so that it's a great place from which to build."

The ACT has forged ahead with plans to introduce one day per week free preschool for three-year-olds and legislating to recognise the importance of early education in the two years before school and the qualifications of early childhood teachers.

A survey by advocacy body

The Parenthood found 85 per cent of families believed that they needed two incomes to keep pace with the cost of living. Six in 10 parents said they or their partner would work different hours if childcare wasn't so expensive.

The Parenthood chief executive Jessica Rudd said the current early education and care system had been cobbled together over generations to meet the needs of the few, rather than the many.

"We've got to start thinking about early childhood education and care and those early years as an essential

service," Ms Rudd said.

"So that calls for in, our view, a legislated child based entitlement that actually sets children up for a life of learning and supports families through those early years so that they can participate in the workforce and get the support that they need."

She said Australia's paid parental leave scheme, which will reach 26 weeks by 2026, was still far behind the other OECD countries.

Mr Weatherill said significant investment in the system would provide benefits that outweigh costs.

Airlines, tourism face long haul ahead for the recovery in international travel

Adrian Rollins

Economics correspondent

AIRLINES, hotels and tourism operators have been warned it is likely to take another two years for international travel to return to pre-pandemic levels.

Though official figures show the big influx of

international students is continuing and the rebound in short-term arrivals is well under way, forecaster Deloitte Access Economics predicts it will not be until late 2025 that visitor numbers recover to 2019 levels.

In a report commissioned by the Australian Airports Association, Deloitte said

domestic air travel would be fully recovered from the pandemic by the end of this year and would continue to grow solidly through 2024 and beyond.

It predicts domestic passenger traffic will grow by an average 2.3 per cent a year to reach more than 180 million trips by 2040,

up from around 100 million trips in 2012.

But it cautions the rebound in international travel will be more drawn out.

The forecaster said borders closures and ongoing supply chains issues and capacity constraints had hampered the recovery in this sector, along with

"prolonged travel hesitancy, which is just starting to show signs of recovery".

International passenger numbers in the year to June 2023 were still 43 per cent lower than in the same period in 2019 and will take until late 2025 to catch up to where they were.

And Deloitte predicts

future growth will be slower than the pre-pandemic period, averaging a little less than 3 per cent a year compared with 5.6 per cent a year between 2012 and 2019.

But Australian Bureau of Statistics figures show international student arrivals in September almost matched pre-pandemic levels.

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WORKPLACE SAFETY ACT laws toughest in Australia

New rules for dealing with engineered stone in the ACT

Steve Evans

THE workplace safety regulator in the ACT is toughening its policing of new laws to protect workers from silica dust.

SafeWork ACT has introduced a new code of practice for work places where engineered stone, bricks, tiles, concrete and other dust-generating materials are processed.

The ACT's laws are the toughest in Australia, and breaking them could incur fines running into the thousands of dollars.

The crackdown on processing materials which contain silica comes as Bunnings prepares to stop selling a range of kitchen benchtops which are made of "engineered stone" which contains the substance.

In the ACT, the government has toughened the law. SafeWork ACT has now trained inspectors to be ready to get tough with employers who continue not to use stringent safety measures for materials which contain cancer-causing silica.

The ACT has gone further than other jurisdictions which have confined their rules to engineered stone. The ACT has broadened its regulations to most other silica-containing materials, including tiles, bricks and concrete.

Silicosis (caused by breathing-in silica dust) is potentially fatal and certainly debilitating to workers.

The Minister for Workplace Safety Mick

We continue to see non-compliance, with failures to protect workers from silica dust.

WorkSafe ACT commissioner

Jacqueline Agius

Gentleman wants to go further and ban engineered stone outright. "There is no scientific evidence of a safe level of exposure to silica dust generated from cutting engineered stone," he said.

Under the new regulations:

- Workers must be trained in how to handle and cut not just engineered stone but other materials like tiles.
- Their health has to be monitored by doctors who specialize in workplace illnesses.
- Control measures to suppress dust must be in place. This includes ventilation, running water to suppress dust and masked-up workers.
- Dry-cutting materials is not allowed.

WorkSafe ACT commissioner Jacqueline Agius said: "We continue to see non-compliance, with failures to protect workers from silica dust."



The ACT's Work Health and Safety Commissioner Jacqueline Agius. Picture supplied

"We must take a stand, take action; and use the new Code of Practice to ensure workers are protected from silica dust that comes from all materials - not just engineered stone, but also materials like concrete and bricks and other natural stones."

She said that since the law changed last year, SafeWork ACT had issued 68 improvement or prohibition notices (ordering employers to make safer or stop dangerous practices involving silica). Eight more serious infringement notices has been issued with penalties totaling \$30,720.

One of the tougher rules in the ACT is that specialist doctors have to examine workers to

assess their levels of silicosis. This is because X-rays alone do not necessarily reveal the lung disease. It needs a doctor to analyse a range of factors, like how long a worker has been exposed to the stuff.

The industry has been trying to head off an outright ban on engineered stone.

Caesarstone Australia said tougher regulation of the manufactured stone material rather than an outright ban was a better solution.

The construction union rejected that claim. "This is really about blood money," Zach Smith, national and ACT secretary of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union said.

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NEWS

Cricketing bodies
'failed' coach victims

Tim Piccione

THE victim of a notorious paedophile coach has criticised major cricketing bodies for not preventing the historical sexual abuse suffered by more than a dozen children.

"I feel failed by Cricket ACT, Cricket Australia and by those who were in leadership positions at Ginninderra Cricket Club at the time," one victim said from the ACT Supreme Court witness stand on Tuesday.

"All of them failed to take action to keep me and others safe from you."

Ian Harold King, 80, has pleaded guilty to a slate of charges relating to three victims and offending that took place between 1997 and 2003, when he was aged in his 50s.

The serial child sex predator admitted to three counts of the persistent sexual abuse of a child under special care and two counts of sexual intercourse with a child.

King also pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual intercourse without consent and committing an act of indecency.

The offender has been behind bars since 2008 over the sexual abuse of 11 other boys, all but one of whom he coached.

The victim said the national and territory cricketing bodies had seemingly done little to reach out in support to those affected or potentially affected by King.

"It is very much like I and others have been left to figure things out alone and suffer quietly. I am greatly angered by this lack of action,"

the victim said. King's three most recently discovered victims "courageously" described their perpetrator as a "master manipulator and predator" through impact statements.

"My parents invited you to our home for Christmas," one victim said through tears, telling the offender he had also groomed his parents.

"You sat there in their company, eating Christmas lunch, in full knowledge of what you were doing to me."

That man said King made him believe the abuse he suffered was necessary for him to be "a better cricketer and man". "It was a story you told me so you could take advantage of me and the trust I had in you," he said.

King sat silently as he watched proceedings via audio-visual link from the Alexander Maconochie Centre.

"You were a master manipulator and predator who ruined so many people's lives," another victim said in a statement.

"You stole my passion for cricket and for life itself."

A third victim also addressed King directly in court, telling the predator the burden of his abuse was no longer "my cross to bear".

"I will not be ashamed of this anymore," the victim said.

"This story is not who I am."

Prosecutor David Swan outlined certain details of King's offending against the three then-teenage victims.

"He preyed upon the interest of these young boys in cricket and that was the

mechanism that afforded him the opportunity for his offending," Mr Swan said.

"[There is an] inescapable inference the offender engaged in detailed planning and premeditation."

Mr Swan said King's "modus operandi", of offering his victims private training sessions before luring them to his home, where he would sexually abuse them, was "put into practice repeatedly". "A place where they could not easily have escaped the offending," the prosecutor said.

King was handed a 12-year jail sentence in 2012 for 25 charges relating to the sexual abuse of several young boys in the 1980s and 1990s.

Since that initial sentence, the serial offender's time behind bars has been extended numerous times due to more victims coming forward and subsequent fresh convictions.

While the man became eligible for parole in November 2020, he has never applied for early release.

"He's a man who accepts he's unlikely to ever leave the [Alexander Maconochie Centre]," Aboriginal Legal Service lawyer Sam Lynch said. King's minimum prison term will have to be reset again.

Justice Belinda Baker reserved her sentencing decision for a later date.

Support is available for those who may be distressed. Phone Lifeline 13 11 14; Canberra Rape Crisis Centre 6247 2525; Bravehearts 1800 272 831; Blue Knot Foundation 1300 657 380.

Planning minister defends policy

The ACT's planning minister has declared he lived in a 120 metre square home with a family of five, while defending a controversial new planning policy.

Mick Gentleman told an ACT Assembly hearing on Tuesday that he raised three children in a Calwell home approximately that size and his childhood home was even smaller.

"My three children, my wife and I all sustained ourselves in 120 square-metre three-bedroom home in Calwell. It's a very enjoyable house, and my kids have grown up well," he said.

Mr Gentleman said he grew up in an even smaller Canberra home, and it was suitable for many families.

"In my early years of growing up in Canberra ... we grew up in an 80-square-metre house, a two-bedroom FCC home in Reid," he said.

Under the ACT government's new RZ1 dual occupancy policy, a second sep-

arately titled dwelling will be allowed on any block of more than 800 square metres in an RZ1 zone.

It cannot be bigger than 120 square metres.

On Friday, ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr declared that he lives in a 120-square-metre "ex-gov" home with his husband and "very large cat", calling the size "enormous".

"If we just go on building the biggest houses in the world we're not going to improve housing affordability," he said. Opposition spokesperson for planning and land management, Peter Cain, said Canberrans wanted larger freestanding homes.

"How are young families who are already struggling with the ACT housing market meant to fit in what is essentially a 120 square-metre large granny flat? Why limit the size when there could be a house provided for a larger family?"

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Reserve Bank blunts Christmas cheer

Adrian Rollins

Economics correspondent

ALMOST half of households plan to spend less on Christmas gifts this year after the November interest rate hike and fears of further financial pain delivered a hefty blow to consumer confidence.

Two indices that track consumer sentiment both fell sharply following the Reserve Bank of Australia's decision to lift the official cash rate to 4.35 per cent.

The Westpac-Melbourne Institute consumer sentiment index plunged 6 per cent in the immediate aftermath of the rates decision

and settled at 79.9 points, while the ANZ-Roy Morgan consumer confidence index fell 3.5 points to 74.3 points, its weakest reading in four months.

Westpac Group senior economist Matthew Hassan said the slump in mood was "an ominous sign" for retailers heading into the pre-Christmas shopping period.

Even before the latest rate hike, households were pulling back on discretionary spending and although events like the Black Friday sales may encourage a jump in purchases economists think the effect will be short-

lived.

Mr Hassan said the results of the survey showed the gloomy outlook of consumers was having a major bearing on their attitudes to spending.

"Responses point to another penny pinching Christmas this year, with nearly 40 per cent of consumers planning to spend less on gifts than last year," Mr Hassan said.

He said the downbeat response was in line with that observed at the same point last year, and was significantly greater than long-term average of around 33 per cent.

The indices show that people

are not only being affected by the rate rises made to date, but are worried about the outlook.

ANZ senior economist Adelaide Timbrell said the ANZ-Roy Morgan index showed confidence in prospects for the economy in the next five years has dropped to its lowest point since the early stages of the pandemic in April 2020.

"This suggests that the RBA hike may have been a negative economic signal for some households," Ms Timbrell said.

Mr Hassan said consumers were wary of the potential for more rate hikes.

Almost 75 per cent of those surveyed for the Westpac-Melbourne Institute index expect further monetary policy tightening in the next 12 months and just 4 per cent think there will be rate cuts.

The November rate hike had hit the confidence of households with a mortgage particularly hard, Mr Hassan said, with expectations about finances over the coming year especially weak among this group and prospects for the economy over the next five years downgraded to its lowest level in a year.

The Westpac economist said the survey results highlighted the differing impact

high interest rates were having on households across the economy.

"The [survey] points to a widening gap between segments that are struggling with rate increases and the rising cost of living and those that are less exposed to these issues and benefitting from higher returns on deposits and appreciating house prices," he said.

"Family finances and buyer attitudes are coming under intense pressure across the mortgage belt but have firmed amongst those in older age groups, high income earners and those with investment properties."

Promotion cliff blocks part-time workers

Adrian Rollins

Economics correspondent

POTENTIALLY hundreds of thousands of workers are being stymied in their careers by a dearth of part-time jobs at senior levels of management and leadership, according to the Workplace Gender Equality Agency.

A census of large employers undertaken by the agency found that just 7 per cent of management positions were part-time even though more than a fifth of the 4.8 million staff they employed were part-time.

Agency chief executive officer Mary Wooldridge said part-time workers essentially faced a "promotion cliff".

"Part-time workers who want to take up leadership roles in their workplace ... face a sudden drop-off in [the] availability of management level jobs that could otherwise contribute to advancing or sustaining their career," Ms Wooldridge said.

The agency boss said this was a particularly acute problem for women, given that 30 per cent of them worked part-time, compared with 11 per cent of men.

"Limited access to flexible working arrangements has a disproportionate effect on women's earning capacity," Ms Wooldridge said.

"Women are more likely to want or need to work part-time," she said.

"This analysis shows there are severe constraints on them doing so at senior levels and helps explain why we see much lower proportions of women in leadership roles."



The broken Federation Centenary Fountains and empty ponds in the National Triangle. Picture by Gary Ramage

When fixing a fountain costs \$20 million

Megan Doherty

THE National Capital Authority is asking for design ideas on how to use broken heritage fountains in front of Old Parliament House that haven't worked since 2014 and which the authority estimates would cost \$15 million to \$20 million to get working again.

The NCA wants costed design concepts for the renewal of the Federation Centenary Fountains and the immediate precinct "as an alternative to their reconstruction".

It is looking at either the complete demolition of

all the water features with something to replace them or demolition of the central reflection pool and retention of the "Wedding Cake Fountains" (and pools) on either side with a new design proposal for the immediate precinct.

The fountains were envisaged by Walter Burley Griffin in his plan for Canberra but were not commissioned until 1968 and, then, refurbished between 1997 and 2000. From 2000 to 2013, operation of the fountains was intermittent and ceased completely in 2014.

The empty ponds were used in 2021 for an instal-



The working fountains in 2000. Picture by Gary Schafer

lation of handmade fish during that year's Enlighten festival.

The call comes after a detailed analysis showed

the fountains need to be "completely rebuilt and their operation would have a significant environmental impact", the authority said.

"Detailed analysis of the work necessary to refurbish the fountains revealed that a complete reconstruction of the fountains' infrastructure would be required to bring them back into operation at a capital cost of between \$15 and \$20 million. Operational costs would also be significant," the NCA said in a statement.

The authority said the potable water rather than water from Lake Burley Griffin would have to be used in the fountains. "The operation of pumps and filters will result in significant electricity use and potential greenhouse gas emissions," it said.

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Katherine Myers,
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CANBERRA LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

Five things for you to do this weekend

This Rough Magic

The Street Theatre presents the final performances of Helen Machalias's new work about power, survival, and the cost of pursuing the promise of a better life. The play is a theatrical conversation with William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Machalias merges elements of the plot, dialogue and characters of Shakespeare's play with media reports of the Christmas Island detention centre, first-hand accounts of the asylum seeker experience within the Australian system, and Persian storytelling. It's on at The Street Theatre until Sunday, November 19 at various times.

See: thestreet.org.au

National Film and Sound Archive

The Iranian Film Festival Australia is on from Friday, November 17 to Sunday, November 19 at Arc Cinema. It's a curated selection of films celebrating resilience and creativity in Iranian cinema. Five of the six programmed films are Australian premieres. Also on this weekend is the final film in the Australian New Wave series. The Exploitation thriller *Snapshot* (1979) marked the directorial debut of Simon Wincer (*Free Willy*). It tells the story of Melbourne hairdresser Angela (Sigrid Thornton) who dreams of living abroad. When a client suggests she become a model, things begin to get really strange. The film was retitled *The Day After Halloween* for its US release to try to cash in on the unrelated *Halloween*. Arc Cinema, Saturday, November 18 at 1pm.

See: nfsa.gov.au

Bowling through the Bard

Do you feel like brushing up your Shakespeare but don't have the time or patience to wade through his whole body of work? *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised]* gives you all the plays in under two hours performed by three busy actors. Written by three former members of the Royal Shakespeare Company, it offers a comedic romp through all the plays - tragedies, comedies, histories, the



A scene from This Rough Magic. Picture by Novel Photographic

lot - and perhaps some of the sonnets. You might recognise some of the lines. It's on at Canberra REP Theatre until December 2, various dates and times.

See: canberrarep.org.au

The Brian Jonestown Massacre

At Kambri Precinct, ANU on Sunday, November 19 at 7.30pm, the psychedelic rock legends The Brian Jonestown Massacre

return to Australia bringing favourites and new material. With 20 studio albums, 14 EPs, five live albums, six compilation albums and 22 singles, there is no shortage of music from which to choose. This is an 18+ event.

See: kambri.com.au

Rally of Canberra

The 2023 Subaru Canberra Rally of Canberra is the final round of the Bosch



Rally driving returns to Canberra. Picture by Sitthixay Diththavong



The Players (Callum Doherty, top, Alex McPherson, front left, Ryan Street) in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*. Picture by Karina Hudson

Motorsport Australia Rally Championship. With the Service Park centrally located at Exhibition Park In Canberra spectators can witness the teams locally, or head out to the forest to catch all the action. Spectating is free, with a dedicated Rally Village located in Kowen Forest including food trucks and entertainment for children. It's on Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19.

See: rally.com.au

SpringOUT celebrates Canberra's LGBTQIA+ community

SpringOut

SpringOut is Canberra's only pride festival. The month-long event celebrates Australia's most LGBTQIA+ friendly city and Canberra's LGBTQIA+ community in all its diversity.

She Shapes History is a two-hour LGBTQIA+ History Walking Tour around Canberra's inner north that will visit historic sites where revolutions began, romances were sparked, and history was made. From the car parks where lesbians met under cover of darkness to the tennis court that became a key social hub for gay men, Australia's capital city is bustling with queer history. Glebe Park, Canberra City, Saturday, November 18 at 2pm. Cost: \$50.

See: sheshapeshistory.com.au

The LGBTQI+ Inclusive Chocolate Painting Class is designed to bring people together to express their creativity and support for LGBTQI+ inclusivity. It is open to everyone who wishes to celebrate diversity and creativity through chocolate. Cost is \$102. It's on Sunday, November 19 at 2pm at Salthouse Community Centre & Haig Park, Braddon.

See: springout.com.au

The Veterans Rugby Club Charity Pride Rugby Game is the first of its kind in Australia. Some of the Sydney Convicts gay rugby team are coming to Canberra and Senator David Pocock will be playing too. It's on Saturday, November 18 at 1pm at Portsea Oval Royal, Royal Military

College, Duntroon.

See: springout.com.au

Smith's Alternative

Drag Cabaret: Myths and Legends On Friday, November 17 at 9.30pm (doors open at 9pm) see queer cryptids and deities of worship, adventure with heroes of cabaret and find glory. Come as your own fantastical being to win prizes. For some of the artists performing it's their debut. Tickets are \$25/\$20.

See: smithsalternative.com

CSFF: Party Night Mixtape On Saturday, November 18 at 9pm (doors open at 8.30pm) the Canberra Short Film Festival presents a varied program. Tickets are \$15. See: smithsalternative.com



SpringOut is now on. Picture by Nathan J Lester

WORLD

HELPLESS Thousands flee hospitals but the sickest, including babies, are left stranded

No shelter, just suffering and fear

Khan Younis

BATTLES between Israel and Hamas around hospitals has forced thousands of Palestinians to flee from some of the last perceived safe places in northern Gaza, stranding critically wounded patients, newborns and their caregivers with dwindling supplies and no electricity, health officials say.

With Israeli forces fighting in the centre of Gaza City, the territory's main city, both sides have seized on the plight of hospitals as a symbol of the larger war, now in its sixth week. The fighting was triggered by Hamas' October 7 surprise attack into Israel, whose response has led to thousands of deaths - and much destruction - across Gaza.

Israel accuses Hamas of using hospitals as cover for its fighters. On Tuesday, the military released footage of a children's hospital that its forces moved into over the weekend, showing weapons it said it found inside, as well as rooms in the basement where it believes the militants were holding some of the 240 hostages they abducted during the initial attack.

"Hamas uses hospitals as an instrument of war," said Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, the army's chief spokesman, standing in a room of the Rantisi Children's Hospital decorated with a colourful children's drawing of a tree. Explosive vests, grenades and RPGs were displayed on the floor.

Meanwhile, gunfire and explosions raged around Gaza City's main hospital, Al-Shifa, which has been encircled by Israeli troops for days. Tens of thousands of people have fled the hospital in the past few days and headed to the southern



Gaza's largest hospitals are no longer operating as fighting escalates, meaning there is nowhere for the injured and displaced to go. Picture AP

Hamas uses hospitals as an instrument of war.

Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, Israeli army spokesman

Gaza Strip, including large numbers of displaced people who had taken shelter there, as well as patients who could move.

For Palestinians, Al-Shifa evokes the suffering of civilians. For weeks, staff members running low on supplies have performed surgery there on war-wounded patients, including children, without anesthesia. After the weekend's mass exodus, about 650 patients and 500 staff remain in the hospital, which can no longer function, along with around 2500 displaced Palestinians sheltering inside with little food or water.

After power for Al-Shifa's incubators went out days ago, the Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza on Monday released a photo it says shows about a dozen premature babies wrapped in blankets together on a bed to keep them at a proper temperature. Otherwise, "they immediately die," said the Health Ministry's director-general, Medhat Abbas, who added that four of the babies had been delivered by cesarean section after their mothers died.

The Israeli military says Hamas has set up its main command centre in and beneath the Al-Shifa

compound, though it has provided little evidence. Both Hamas and Al-Shifa Hospital staff deny the Israeli allegations.

US President Joe Biden said on Tuesday that Al-Shifa must be protected. "It is my hope and expectation that there will be less intrusive action," Biden said from the Oval Office.

Early on Tuesday, the Israeli military said in a statement that it had started an effort to transfer incubators from Israel to Al-Shifa. It wasn't clear if the incubators had been delivered or how they would be powered.

International law gives hospitals special protections during war. But hospitals can lose those protections if combatants use them to hide fighters or store weapons, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross. Still, there

must be plenty of warning to allow for the evacuation of staff and patients.

The Red Cross was attempting to evacuate some 6000 patients, staff and displaced people from another hospital, Al-Quds, after it shut down due to a lack of power, but its convoy had to turn back because of shelling and fighting.

At Al-Shifa Hospital, the Health Ministry said 32 patients, including three babies, had died since its emergency generator ran out of fuel Saturday. It said 36 babies, as well as other patients, were at risk of dying because life-saving equipment could not function.

The US has pushed for temporary pauses to allow distribution of badly needed aid. Israel has agreed only to daily windows during which civilians can flee northern Gaza along two main roads.

Pacific view: Tuvalu pact draws wave of scepticism

Wellington

AUSTRALIA'S treaty-making with Tuvalu at the Pacific Islands Forum has been met with scepticism and accusations of heavy-handedness among regional commentators. There are doubts as to whether the new pact has support in Tuvalu, or if it will survive upcoming elections.

Tuvalu Prime Minister Kausea Natano and Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese signed the treaty on Friday in the Cook Islands with far-reaching defence and climate impacts. The deal will also fund a land reclamation project, and grant Australian residency rights to 280 Tuvaluans each year as the Micronesian government looks to stave off the effects of climate change.

But some across the blue continent have assessed the Falepili Union with uneasiness. Writing for the Toda Peace Institute, academics Taukiei Kitara and Carol Farbotko say the treaty "does not deliver climate justice for the Tuvaluan people" and is instead a deal which delivers on Australian defence ambitions.

"Our gravest concerns about the treaty are that it sidesteps the important question of Australia's commitment to phasing out fossil fuels ... but quite clearly erodes Tuvalu's sovereignty on issues of national security," they said, writing from the Tuvaluan atoll of Vaitupu.

New Zealand-based academic Anna Powles, of Massey University, said the lack of local consultation was significant. "Its popularity may be tested at the polls when Tuvalu votes ... in January 2024," she wrote.

Former UK PM David Cameron makes shock return to politics

London

FORMER British leader David Cameron has been named as the country's new foreign secretary in a surprise appointment made by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak in a reshuffle of his top team.

Cameron, 57, served as British prime minister from 2010 to 2016, resigning after the outcome of the Brexit referendum, when Britain voted to leave the European Union. His unexpected return to the front line of British politics comes after he spent the last seven years writing his mem-

oirs and involving himself in business, including Greensill Capital, a finance firm which later collapsed.

Greensill's demise fuelled questions about the extent to which former leaders can use their status to influence government policy after Cameron repeatedly contacted senior ministers in 2020 to lobby for the firm. Sunak's office said that King Charles had approved giving Cameron a seat in Britain's upper chamber, the House of Lords, allowing him to return to government as a minister

despite no longer being an elected member of parliament.

Under fire from opposition MPs and members of the governing Conservative Party to eject interior minister Suella Braverman, Sunak seemed to have brought forward a long-planned reshuffle. Sunak was forced to sack the interior minister when the ever-controversial Braverman defied him last week in an unauthorised article accusing police of "double standards" at protests, suggesting they were tough

on right-wing demonstrators, but easy on pro-Palestinian marchers. The opposition Labour Party said that inflamed tensions between a pro-Palestinian demonstration and a far-right counter protest on Saturday, with 150 people arrested.

Cameron said he was glad to take on his new role because at a time of global change, "it has rarely been more important for this country to stand by our allies, strengthen our partnerships and make sure our voice is heard".



David Cameron, who served as British prime minister from 2010 to 2016, is back in the cabinet. Picture AP

Trump Jr tells fraud trial of father's vision

New York

DONALD Trump Jr has returned to court as something of a character witness for his father's real estate empire, waxing exuberantly about the former president's "incredible vision" and portfolio of "great, iconic projects" at the New York civil fraud trial now threatening his company's future.

Trump's namesake son made an encore appearance at the Manhattan trial as defence lawyers started calling their own witnesses. Trump Jr first testified two weeks ago, called in by New York State Attorney-General Letitia James' office, which is suing the Trump family business.

"I'd say it's good to be here, your honour, but I have a feeling that the Attorney-General would sue me for perjury if I said that," he joked before embarking on a detailed and rosy history of the family's Trump Organisation.

James, a Democrat, alleges Donald Trump, his company and top executives, including sons Eric and Donald Trump Jr, exaggerated his wealth

by billions of dollars on his annual financial statements. The documents were given to banks, insurers and others to secure loans and make deals. James is seeking more than \$300 million in what she says

were ill-gotten gains, and she wants the defendants banned from doing business in New York.

The defendants deny any wrongdoing, and the former president and current

Republican front-runner insisted in fiery testimony last week that his company was "the opposite of fraud". Eric Trump and his sister Ivanka Trump, a former Trump Organisation executive and

White House adviser, also took the stand.

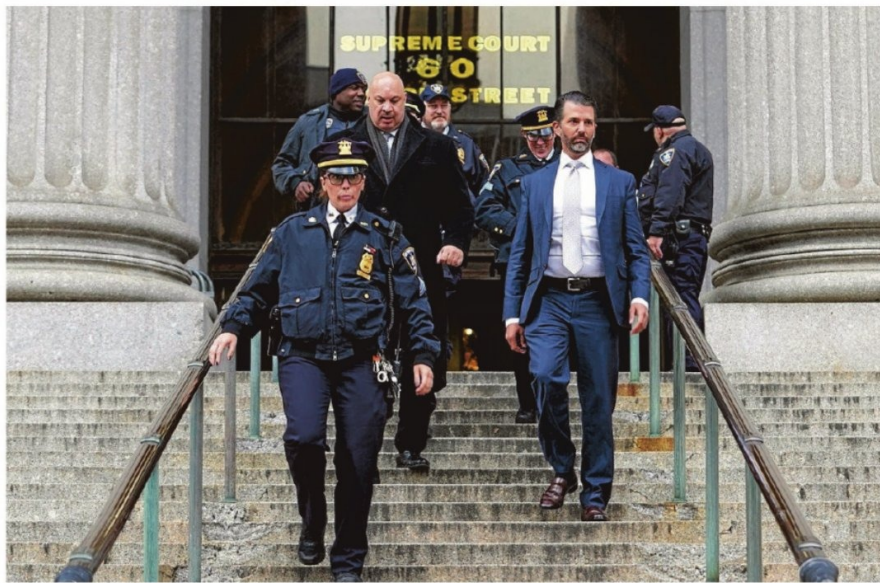
Trump Jr's latest testimony set the tone for a defence case that's expected to last into mid-December. After a six-week state case that

delved heavily into financial statements, spreadsheets and loan deals, the scion aimed to show a broader - and sparkling - picture of the Trump Organisation to the judge who'll decide its fate.

Questioned by his own lawyer, he spent more than an hour narrating a slide-show titled "The Trump Story", complete with a timeline of the company's evolution and photographs of golf courses, hotels and other major projects. He spoke glowingly about his father's early years as a developer of Manhattan skyscrapers and the "vision he had to do things differently".

"He's an artist with real estate. He sees the things other people don't," Trump Jr testified, playing up his father's accomplishments while skipping over his failures.

At times, his testimony had the feel of a real estate pitch or an episode of *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*. State lawyer Colleen Faherty tried to forestall the superlative-laced spiel, arguing Trump Jr's amped testimony was "unfocused to anything relevant" to the case.



Donald Trump Jr has returned to court as defence lawyers start calling witnesses in the New York civil fraud trial that threatens his father's real estate empire. Picture EPA

Oil company to close Amazon project in win for environment

Quito

ECUADOR'S state oil company Petroecuador says it will shut down a large drilling project in the Yasuni ecological reserve in the Amazon rainforest, following a referendum.

Petroecuador CEO Reinaldo Armijos told reporters on Tuesday that the company had a plan for the gradual closure of the 43-ITT block, which currently pumps around 57,000 barrels per day (bpd).

In a result hailed by both environmental and indig-



An oil project in the Amazon will be closed after Ecuador's voters chose the environment over profits. Picture EPA

enous activists, voters in August opted to shutter production at the 43-ITT block

in an effort to better protect the Yasuni reserve, a national park located in the Amazon

in northeastern Ecuador. Flora and fauna affected by oil production in the reserve would take many years to recover, Environment Minister Jose Davalos said in September.

Armijos said that the initial cost to shut down the project was estimated at \$600 million. He also noted that lost revenue from the project due to the looming suspension would likely total about \$680 million next year. The state-run producer's crude output currently stands at about 400,000 bpd.

Ecuador is one of Latin America's mid-range oil producers, behind regional heavyweights Brazil, Mexico and Colombia.

Armijos said output would likely end next August at around 41,000 bpd before the project, which entered into production in 2016, was closed down. He emphasised that incoming president Daniel Noboa, due to take office in late November, would have the last word on the block's status. Noboa has previously said he would respect the will of voters

to end the project. Drilling contracts at 43-ITT would remain in place through to the end of this year, and then from January Petroecuador would not seek to maintain its output, Armijos added.

The project's closure is also seen as impacting the OCP oil pipeline, which will come under government control next year. Environmental groups and local indigenous communities have described the vote to close the oil project as a historic step toward reducing the harmful effects of climate change.

Caribbean whale sanctuary declared

San Juan

THE tiny Caribbean island of Dominica is creating the world's first marine protected area for one of Earth's largest animals: the endangered sperm whale.

Nearly 800 square kilometres of royal blue waters on the western side of the island nation that serve as key nursing and feeding grounds will be designated as a reserve, the government has announced.

"We want to ensure these majestic and highly intelligent animals are safe from

harm and continue keeping our waters and our climate healthy," Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit said in a statement.

The move was praised by scientists and conservationists including Enric Sala, an explorer-in-residence at National Geographic. Scientists say the reserve not only will protect the animals, but it will also help fight climate change.

Sperm whales defecate near the surface because they shut down non-vital functions when they dive to

depths of up to 3000 metres. As a result, nutrient-rich poop remains along the ocean surface and creates plankton blooms, which capture carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and drag it to the ocean floor where they die.

And sperm whales in Dominica are believed to defecate more than whales elsewhere, said Shane Gero, a whale biologist and founder of the Dominica Sperm Whale Project, a research program focused on sperm whales in the

eastern Caribbean. "In some respects, sperm whales are fighting climate change on our behalf," Gero said in an interview.

Less than 500 sperm whales are estimated to live in the waters surrounding Dominica, part of a population that moves along the Lesser Antilles chain, swimming as far south as St Vincent and north into Guadeloupe. Unlike sperm whales elsewhere in the world, the ones around the eastern Caribbean don't travel very far, Gero says.

Nepal bans TikTok in bid to protect social harmony

Kathmandu

NEPAL'S government has banned the popular social media app TikTok, saying it was disrupting "social harmony" in the country. The announcement was made by Foreign Minister Narayan Prakash Saud on Tuesday, who said the app would be banned immediately.

"The government has decided to ban TikTok as it was necessary to regulate the use of the social media platform that was disrupting social harmony, goodwill and flow

of indecent materials," Saud said. To make social media platforms accountable, the government had asked the companies to register and open a liaison office in Nepal, pay taxes and abide by the country's laws and regulations, he said.

It wasn't clear what triggered the ban. TikTok, owned by China's ByteDance, has faced scrutiny in a number of countries because of concerns that Beijing could use the app to harvest user data.

OPINION

EDITORIAL

One rule for Greens, another for others

THE ACT Greens have learnt nothing from recent reviews of federal parliamentary workplace practices despite having voted to beef up the ACT's code of conduct for MLAs just two months ago.

The revised code came into effect on October 9; just weeks before serious allegations against now former MLA Johnathan Davis came to light. It sets out how allegations of bullying, harassment and sexual assault are to be handled in the territory's parliament.

Assembly ethics and integrity adviser, Stephen Skehill's, observation that while he was unaware of any systemic or historic problems "it would be short-sighted and inappropriate to consider that issues of this nature [allegations of sexual impropriety] could not arise in the future" was remarkably prescient.

While it is yet to be determined if the dilatory manner in which the ACT Greens finally made their Labor coalition partners aware of the allegations breached the letter of the code, its principles seem to have been ignored.

Whether or not the code has been breached will almost certainly be one of the questions to be considered by an independent inquiry into the handling of the allegations.

A war of words has broken out between ACT Labor and the Greens over the way in

The Canberra Times

TO SERVE THE NATIONAL CITY
AND THROUGH IT THE NATION

The Greens are always the first to call for transparency.

which the junior party kept the allegations under wraps for more than a week.

Labor is critical of the fact that, although Greens minister Emma Davidson knew of them at least as early as October 29, Assembly speaker Joy Burch only learned of them by reading *The Canberra Times* last Friday.

Ms Burch has every reason to feel displeased. Under the Assembly's child safety code of conduct and policy, allegations

involving minors must be referred to the speaker - presumably in a timely fashion.

One of the allegations taken to the Greens leadership was Mr Davis had sex with a 15-year-old boy. No complainant has come forward but the party deemed the allegation serious enough to take to police.

The other was that he had been in an "inappropriate" but not illegal relationship with a 17-year-old male.

Mr Rattenbury, who purports to be miffed because he believes Labor is using the allegations to "create a political advantage", was not told of the allegations until November 6.

This was despite their having been discussed at a meeting between Ms Davidson, two staffers and Mr Rattenbury's chief of staff on October 30.

The decision by those at that meeting not

to tell the party leader of the storm clouds that were gathering, on the basis the claims had not been verified, appears remarkable in view of the furore surrounding various allegations about sexual misconduct at Federal Parliament.

They chose, instead, to conduct their own secret review, which, in turn, delayed the reporting of the allegations to the Legislative Assembly and the police.

It also appears to indicate that the culture of cover-up and secrecy which is endemic in the federal Greens is also well-entrenched in the ACT branch.

It has often been remarked that while the Greens are the first to call for frankness and transparency from others, they are notoriously short on accountability themselves.

That was demonstrated last year by Adam Bandt's refusal to confirm or deny he was investigating allegations that then Greens senator Lidia Thorpe had verbally abused Auntie Geraldine Atkinson to the point she - the complainant - felt physically ill.

It was said at the time that given the Greens purported to practise politics "in a more principled way" Adam Bandt should "practise what he so often preaches".

That now seems a criticism of Shane Rattenbury and his team as well.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vapes are a threat to health and the environment

I WAS very pleased to learn on Monday that the Minderoo Foundation is funding the anti-vaping campaign, called "Uncloud". ("Vape-sick youth share stories of addiction", November 13).

The previous Friday I was very angry when I found an IGET Blackberry Ice vape discarded in dry grass in a nearby street. This was on a day of increasing fire danger which is likely to go to extreme in the near future.

Vapes are classed as hazardous waste. I had to drive halfway across Canberra to the Mitchell waste centre because I could not put it in either my rubbish or recycling bin.

I placed it in the special bin for things with lithium batteries which can explode if overheated. The IGET webpage does point out that nicotine is addictive (the page is filled with beautiful images with luscious flavours), but made no mention of the dangers to the user's health and to everyone's safety.

IGET have now written back to me saying: "We truly appreciate your effort in taking the initiative to dispose of the item responsibly. While it's unfortunate that the original owner did not adhere to appropriate disposal methods, your action reflects a commendable level of civic responsibility and care for the environment."

"Additionally, your feedback has highlighted a crucial area for improvement in our customer communication. We are taking immediate steps to update our website and product packaging with clear information regarding the hazards of the components and the importance of proper disposal".

Thanks, but I hope the Australian government will show an even more commendable level of civic responsibility and care for our environment by making it illegal to import and sell vapes with or without a doctor's prescription.

Frank McKone, Canberra

Stronger conduct code needed

The latest version of the ACT Greens' by-laws for party members, dated October 16, 2023, contains clear code of conduct expectations, including "being mindful at all times of the potential impact of my actions on the reputation and standing of the party" ("Teen 'pressured' to keep quiet", November 12).

The ACT Legislative Assembly website does not appear to list a code of conduct for MLAs and political staffers, about the behaviour, integrity, transparency, reputation, and accountability responsibilities and expectations for such high-level public office positions, nor does it refer to the use of publicly provided and funded Assembly systems and other resources.

Also, the 2020 Labor-Greens Parliamentary and Governing Agreement does not address basic conduct requirements for both parties' MLAs beyond the view that they will broadly act to provide "the ACT with stable and effective government". A ministerial code of conduct is only briefly mentioned.

All ACT parties may wish to review the need for explicit, easily understood and publicly accessible codes of conduct for the Assembly and for any future joint governing arrangements and propose improvements well before the 2024 election. Any recontesting or aspiring MLA who feels they might be tempted to flout the codes over a four-year period would then have the time and opportunity to decide against pursuing nomination and candidacy.

Sue Dyer, Downer

Good for the goose

Re "Greens failed to tell speaker about Davis" (November 14), Shane Rattenbury said that "for Labor to try and create a political advantage out of the most difficult and sensitive issue, reflects very poorly".



Used vapes are classified as hazardous waste and must be disposed of accordingly. Picture by David Ellery

On the one hand he rebukes Labor for allegedly acting inappropriately, on the other he and his party are treating the public with contempt by not notifying the Assembly about the alleged misconduct of one of its members, despite a policy requirement for them to do so. That reflects equally poorly. What's good for the goose, is good for the gander.

Mario Stivala, Belconnen

Details please

So, Mike Pezzullo has been spotted walking through the rain at Kingston (*The Public Sector Informant*, November 13), and *The Canberra Times* has produced photographic evidence of same.

Unfortunately the article neglects to answer intriguing questions: Was he ambling or rambling? Was he striding or stalking? Why wasn't he using an umbrella? Was he going to or from Kingston?

If one stakes out Kingston next time it rains, would one be likely to see him oneself?

Or, does he walk around other suburbs when it rains? It's a shame that *The Canberra Times* teases its readers with titillating tidbits of information, while withholding some of the more fascinating facets of the story.

Gordon Fyfe, Kambah

Please stay seated

I have been fortunate to have attended two wonderful concerts in recent weeks. The

food & wine

Karen Hardy

If you need me for the next few weeks I'll be on the couch indulging in Network 10's *Dessert Masters*. It's the creme de la creme, if you'll excuse the bad pun, of Australia's best dessert and pastry chefs, a spin-off of the fan favourite *MasterChef*. There's some *MasterChef* contestant alumni in Reynold Poernomo and Jess Liemantara as well as regular judges Adriano Zumbo, Anna Polyviou, Morgan Hipworth and Gareth Whitton.

Chocolate Queen Kirsten Tibballs is no stranger to the *MasterChef* kitchen either. As one of Australia's most celebrated and internationally acclaimed pastry chefs and chocolatiers, there's no doubt she knows her stuff. But it's sharing what she knows that really drives her.

She was happy to share a few of her chocolate secrets and recipes from her latest book *Chocolate All Day*.

Do you have what it takes to be a dessert master?

WHICH CHOCOLATE?

I work with Callebaut brand chocolate and I use it in all the recipes in this book. If you can't get Callebaut, try to work with another good-quality chocolate, which can be referred to as couverture. I use chocolate in the form of buttons. You can use a block of chocolate, but you will need to chop it. To determine the quality, take a look at the ingredients. You want to ensure that the chocolate is made with cocoa butter and not vegetable fat. Chocolate made with vegetable fat is often referred to as compound chocolate. In compound chocolate the cocoa butter is replaced with a modified vegetable fat that has a higher melting point than cocoa butter, and both our palates and bodies find it difficult to process. Using compound chocolate will give you an inferior eating experience.

HOW AND WHY WE TEMPER CHOCOLATE

Chocolate only needs to be tempered if it is used as a coating or garnish. I have given instructions throughout the book in the relevant recipes on how to temper. I use the simple microwave method. However, if you don't have a microwave you can temper chocolate on the stovetop. (Refer to our Savour School YouTube channel, where you will find technique videos.) The reason why we temper chocolate is to avoid fat bloom. This is caused when the chocolate is melted without tempering. When the chocolate sets, some of the cocoa butter sets in larger particles, which can cause white dots or streaks throughout the chocolate. If your chocolate sets and it has fat bloom, it can be re-tempered as per my original tempering instructions, as long as nothing other than colour has been added to it.



Mastering the art of chocolate



HANDLING AND WORKING WITH CHOCOLATE

A small slab of stone is a great investment for working with chocolate. It will give you a flat surface that will pull the heat away from the chocolate. When working with chocolate, your room temperature should be no more than 24C. You will sometimes need to use the fridge for setting chocolate. As a guide, a thin layer of chocolate shouldn't need more than five minutes in the fridge, and a thicker piece of chocolate up to 20 minutes. If you store chocolate in the fridge for longer periods of time, when you bring it to room temperature you will get condensation on the surface. The condensation will dissolve the sugar in the chocolate and it will set in larger particles, which you can see as well as feel on the palate.

HOW TO STORE CHOCOLATE

Chocolate should be well sealed in opaque packaging at all times as it absorbs moisture from the atmosphere very quickly, especially in humid climates. If the chocolate has absorbed moisture, its texture will be noticeably thicker when melted. Use fresh chocolate for finishing and garnishing. If chocolate is exposed to light in clear packaging, it will fade slightly in colour.

A NOTE ON EGGS

The recipes use 58g eggs with the shells (50g without). The "whole egg" weight refers to just the egg yolk and white without the shell. If the weight needed is more or less than a whole egg, lightly beat the egg before weighing it to reach the required quantity.

- This is an edited extract from *Chocolate All Day*, by Kirsten Tibballs. Photography by Armelle Habib. Murdoch Books. \$49.99.
- *MasterChef Dessert Masters* screens Sunday to Wednesday on Network Ten and 10Play.
- Head inside Food & Wine for delicious recipes from Kirsten Tibballs.

CHOCOLATE

ALL DAY



Kirsten Tibballs
THE CHOCOLATE QUEEN

Christmas Lunch

Bookings
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AT LARK HILL

Sweet happenings back at Pialligo



KAREN HARDY

There's nothing like a bite of something sweet to inject you with some energy and that's exactly what's happening out at Pialligo.

Chef and patissier Natalie Van den Bosch, formerly of cult Gungahlin bakery Le Bon Melange, has moved into the vacant Farm Shop Cafe space and people are flocking back to the precinct to dine at The Pialligo Bakesmith.

After the collapse of Pialligo Estate in March 2023, the Beltana Road precinct known as The Plot has suffered after both the Farm Shop Cafe and the Market Grocer, which were run by Pialligo Estate, closed their doors.

Only a few retail businesses remained. Christine Pearce's interior styling and home decoration business Pink Flamingo Interiors and Brian Tunks' Bison Homewares, with both the Glasshouse and The Cottage, all noticed a downturn in trade.

The Pialligo Bakesmith has only been open for three weeks but already customers, and shoppers, have been making their way back to Pialligo.

Van den Bosch ran Le Bon Melange for five years before closing the doors 18 months ago. She'd been keeping half an eye on vacant spaces and when her good friend Tunks called and suggested she come out to Pialligo she could see the potential of the space.

The cottage has been given a lick of paint, the gardens tended to, the large outdoor deck and marquee spaces brought back to life. Having the extra space - and a bigger kitchen is on the way too - has enabled Van den Bosch to extend the menu.

"We just didn't want to be a cookie cutter kind of cafe," she jokes, being a baker and all.

As well as the sweet treats, including a range of perfect little pastry tarts and pies, there's a savoury menu that's proving popular.

She's secured the services of chef Yokus



Pialligo Bakesmith's Natalie Can den Bosch has found a new home. Picture by Sitthixay Dittthavong

Wu and pastry chef Callum Thomas, Klim Kim is keeping an eye on front of house.

"The hot savoury meals have been going really well," she says. The boulangerie potato is a layered baked potato served with poached eggs and maple-glazed bacon has proved a favourite. So too the chilli scramble with XO chilli, eggs and hickory-smoked salmon.

■ The Bakesmith at Pialligo, 12 Beltana Road, Pialligo. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 8am-4pm. @thepialligobakesmith

TERRIBLE TWOS

Well the past two years haven't really been terrible for Louis Couttoupes and the team at Onzieme. Not only have they won Gourmet Traveller's best ACT restaurant award, they managed to hold onto a star in the recent Good Food Guide Awards. There'll be a birthday party of sorts on November 19, from 1pm to 6pm, with "drinks, simple food and lots of chill". There's also something about gerbils and spaghetti beavers?

■ @onzieme.cbr

PARTY TIME

Speaking of birthdays, I feel old knowing Kita is turning five. They'll shut down the whole of Narrabundah, well a bit of Boolimba Street, for a Block Party on Sunday, November 26. There'll be food, drinks, live music and plenty of good vibes. Keep an eye on socials for more details.

■ @kita.cbr

WINE TASTING

Head to the Alliance Francaise in Turner for the yearly Beaujolais Wine Tasting on November 16, from 7.30pm.

Fromagers d'Affinois have prepared a delicious cheese plate as an accompaniment.

\$Non AF members, \$75. We're predicting beaujolais might be the wine of summer.

■ @afcannberra.com.au

SUCH A LUNCH

Hot off their best new restaurant award Such and Such is offering an express lunch where they promise to have you in and out in the hour.

\$50 gets you an appellation oyster with sherry vinegar; school prawns and cashews, fried and coated in 666 spice; oxtail orange and ginger stuffed pierogi with parmesan; and a Newcastle Greens gem lettuce salad. Who needs the long lunch?

■ @and.suchandsuch

GARDEN NIGHTS

If you're concerned about where your food comes from, and we all should be, think about heading to Two Before 10 in Aranda for the Garden Dinner on November 25.

Enjoy a shared plate dinner featuring Aranda garden produce and Canberra District wines.

Chef will be on hand to talk you through what you are eating and answer any of your produce questions and bar staff will match up the wines.

This small group evening will be held around the Aranda Long Table with only a limited number of tickets available. \$140.

■ @twobeforeten.com.au

Lerida Estate riesling wins top award

Karen Hardy

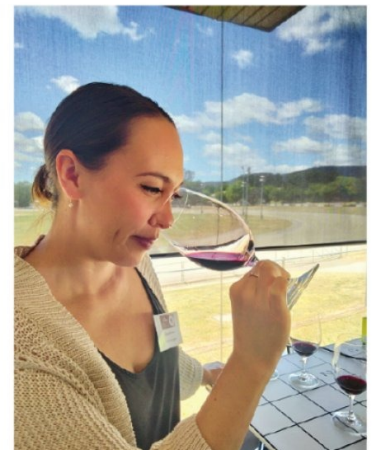
IF YOU'RE keen to pick up a bottle of the Lerida Estate 2023 Cullerin riesling, which just won champion wine of the 2023 Canberra and Region Wine Show, you'll have to get in quick - there's only 40 cases of it in existence. The beautifully textured and balanced riesling won four trophies at the show. What's even more impressive is that it's the first vintage from new vines Lerida Estate planted in 2020.

"It's nice to know we have the right clone and put it in the right place," says Lerida general manager Andrew McFadzean. "Riesling is the Canberra District's real hero variety and now we need to nurture and treasure these vines for years to come."

Chair of judges Shanteh Wale, pictured, said more than 320 entries were received from 55 wineries for the show, facilitated by the Royal National Capital Agricultural Society.

■ Best sparkling: Centennial Vineyards NV Brut Traditionelle; Best pinot gris or grigio: Allegiance Wines 2023 Emily Jane Tumberumba pinot grigio; Best Canberra District riesling: Lerida Estate 2023 Cullerin riesling; Best riesling: Lerida Estate 2023 Cullerin riesling; Best sauvignon blanc: Eden Road 2023 Canberra sauvignon blanc; Best chardonnay: Collector 2021 Tiger Tiger chardonnay; Best white wine of show: Lerida Estate 2023 Cullerin riesling; Best medium or sweet wine: Lark Hill Winery 2022 Ley-Line riesling; Best rosé: Mada

Wines 2023 Nebbiolo rosé; Best pinot noir: Pankhurst Wines 2022 pinot noir; Best sangiovese: Grove Estate 2022 Hilltops sangiovese; Best tempranillo: Hungerford Hill 2022 Hilltops tempranillo; Dr Edgar Riek OAM Trophy for the Best Canberra District shiraz: Four Winds Vineyard 2022 Canberra District Hard Graft shiraz; Best shiraz: Moppity Vineyards 2022 Lock & Key shiraz; Best cabernet sauvignon: Pankhurst Wines 2022 Dorothy May cabernet sauvignon; Best red wine of show: Eden Road 2023 Gundagai nero d'avola; Best Hilltops region wine: Moppity Vineyards 2022 Lock & Key shiraz; Chair of judges' award: Mount Majura Vineyard 2023 riesling; Best wine of show: Lerida Estate 2023 Cullerin riesling.





Braised beef in peanut-annatto sauce.



Pinoy barbecue ribs.



Chicken barbecue skewers.

Christmas comes early in Watson

Amy Martin

I remember reading once there are two types of people in this world: people who think Christmas begins on November 1 and people who think anything before December 23 is too early. And they inevitably end up together.

While this social media musing is definitely not in the realm of any real demographic discovery, as we stepped into Lolo and Lola during the first weekend of November, nothing felt more accurate than this statement.

With Christmas carols playing on a loop and decorations filling the walls of this Watson Filipino eatery, the festive season has arrived early. Much to my delight. And my partner? While he was happy I was happy, he was questioning the festive tone. A quick Google and we discovered the Christmas season begins in September in the Philippines.

One thing my partner and I can agree on, however, is that we are keen to try some great Filipino food. We've both heard great things and are eager to cross Lolo and Lola off our bucket list of Canberra eateries.

We sit down at our table and pull out our phones to scan the QR code to bring up the menu and order. I'm always in two minds about society's newly found appreciation for the QR code, especially in the hospitality industry. Every time I use one, I think back to a time pre-COVID when it was an outdated technology. And now - well it's come back stronger than a '90s trend. And I can see the use for it in some eateries - places like Lolo and Lola where there is a casualness to it.



Chef Jay Prieto and manager Kim Cudia.

Where it really works in Lolo and Lola's favour, however, is in highlighting just how quick the service is. My phone has just finished - slowly - loading the "your order is now complete" page (perhaps a sign of the Optus outage that was soon to follow?) and all of our food has landed on our table.

I start with the Pinoy barbecue ribs (\$25). Slow-cooked and grilled, these pork baby back ribs with thick banana barbecue sauce look exactly how mouth-wateringly good ribs should look. The type with a slight sheen on them from the sticky sauce that just makes you want to dig in with your hands. Being pork ribs, there's not a whole lot of meat on these bones but what is there, is cooked beautifully. The sauce has a nice sweetness to it, with just a hint of smokiness that makes the ribs moreish.

13/20

LOLO AND LOLA

Address: 3 Watson Place, Watson

Phone: 0487 908 485

Website: loloandlola.com.au

Hours: Lunch, Saturday and Sunday, sittings at 11am and 12.30pm; Dinner, Thursday to Sunday, sittings at 5pm and 6.30pm

Chef: Jay Prieto

Noise: Not too bad

Dietary: Limited options

I move on to the atchara salad (\$18) - a mix of pickled green papaya and vegetables on a bed of salad greens. It's a fairly simple salad - the pickled elements are maybe outweighed by the salad greens which is a little disappointing, but this is still a great salad for anyone who loves a pickled element in their food. It has that zingy tang and goes well with some of the richer food on our table.

Next up we have the chicken barbecue skewers (\$15) which are marinated in that same banana sauce used on the pork. However, what I think the ribs had going for it over the chicken was the quantity of the sauce. Those same moreish elements in the ribs were a little lost on the chicken and it was slightly tough. That being said, it was served with a spiced vinegar dip on the side which helped to elevate it.

Rounding out our savouries for this evening is Lola's Kare-Kare - braised beef

with vegetables in peanut-annatto sauce with a side of shrimp paste (\$21.50). This dish was a little perplexing and didn't mesh quite right for me.

Firstly the beef itself was overcooked and didn't seem to take on any of the flavours of the stew's sauce. And while most of the vegetables worked quite well in the sweet nuttiness of the sauce, the bok choy tasted as if it had been pickled before being put in the stew and it was a little jarring. The hero here, though, was the shrimp paste. When added to the beef and vegetables it added this brilliant saltiness that went some way to saving the dish.

We finish the night with buko pie crumble (\$9.50) which I notice is not on this week's menu - one of the downsides of a restaurant that changes its menu weekly. If it ever makes an appearance again, make sure to get it. It's a slightly warmed creamy coconut custard and young coconut meat-filled pie topped with streusel.

I'm a big pie fan and wholeheartedly believe that pies are better than cakes. But this is one of the most surprising pies I've eaten. Coconut always feels like a cold, tropical-type dessert, but used here felt like a bit of a warm hug in dessert form, while still not feeling too heavy in the flavour profile.

Perhaps it was just the Christmas decorations that were surrounding us, but it almost felt like something you could have as part of a festive feast.

Either way though, next time I want to celebrate Christmas early, I'm going to be heading to Lolo and Lola.

There's a little bit of Christmas magic here that I'm sure must last the whole year round.

HOW WE SCORE Of 20 points, 10 are awarded for food, five for service, three for ambience, two for wow factor.

12 Reasonable 13 Solid and satisfactory 14 Good 15★ Very good 16★★ Seriously good 17★★★ Great 18★★★★ Excellent 19★★★★★ Outstanding 20★★★★★ The best of the best

Chocolate dreams all day

THESE recipes are the keys to the chocolate kingdom. The simplest route to chocolate happiness by the doyenne of chocolate, Kirsten Tibballs. It's always the right time for chocolate.

ROCKY ROAD CHOCOLATE CAKE

Simply irresistible. This beauty is covered in luscious chocolate ganache and crowned with a halo of fresh raspberries, peanuts, marshmallows and milk chocolate. The inside of the cake is also studded with rocky road surprises. It's so much more than just another chocolate cake.

Ingredients

Rocky road chocolate cake:

200g whole eggs
115g caster sugar
2 vanilla beans, split lengthways and seeds scraped
95g plain flour
20g Dutch-process cocoa powder
1/2 tsp salt

20g unsalted butter, melted
30g marshmallows, chopped
45g good-quality milk chocolate, roughly chopped
35g roasted salted peanuts, roughly chopped
60g fresh raspberries

Chocolate ganache:

200ml thickened cream
250g good-quality milk chocolate

To finish:

45g good-quality milk chocolate, roughly chopped
30g marshmallows, chopped
25g roasted salted peanuts, roughly chopped
60g fresh raspberries

Method

1. To make the cake, preheat the oven to 170C fan-forced.
2. Grease an 18cm round cake tin.
3. Whisk the eggs, sugar and vanilla seeds in the bowl of a stand mixer with a whisk attachment on high speed for approximately five minutes, until light and fluffy.
4. To check whether the mixture is ready, lift the whisk and drizzle the mixture back onto itself. If it sits on top without immediately sinking back into the rest of the mixture, it is ready.
5. Sift the flour, cocoa powder and salt, then gradually add to the whisked egg mixture.
6. Mix a small amount of the batter into the melted butter, then fold all the butter into the batter to incorporate.
7. Add the marshmallows, chocolate, peanuts and raspberries and gently fold them through until evenly distributed.
8. Transfer the mixture to the prepared cake tin and bake for 30-35 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
9. Leave to cool completely at room temperature.
10. For the chocolate ganache, heat the cream in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to the boil.
11. Put the chocolate in a bowl.
12. Pour the hot cream over the chocolate and whisk until the chocolate is completely melted and incorporated.
13. Cover with plastic wrap touching the surface of the ganache and leave to cool at room temperature for two hours, until it thickens to a spreadable consistency.
14. Spread the chocolate ganache on top of the cake.
15. Arrange the chopped chocolate, marshmallows, peanuts and raspberries to form a halo around the top of the ganache.
16. The cake is best eaten within a few days of baking and served at room temperature. Store the undecorated



Chocolate All Day, by Kirsten Tibballs. Photography by Armelle Habib. Murdoch Books. \$49.99.



cake in the fridge for up to four days. The cake can be made up to four weeks in advance and frozen. After the ganache and decoration are added, the cake can be stored for up to three days.

For best results: Place the eggs in a bowl of body temperature water and leave for 10 min-

utes to warm them before making the cake. Gently move the eggs around as they warm. This will create better volume when whisking. **Next level:** For added glamour, replace the marshmallows on top with edible flowers.

Serves 10

CARAMEL SLICE TOPPED WITH MILK CHOCOLATE GANACHE

Ingredients

Biscuit base:

125g unsalted butter, melted
200g soft brown sugar
120g plain flour
50g desiccated coconut pinch of ground cinnamon
50g good-quality milk chocolate, roughly chopped

Caramel filling:

80g unsalted butter, cubed
80g soft brown sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract

395ml sweetened condensed milk
90g good-quality dark chocolate

Ganache topping:

250g good-quality milk chocolate
100ml thickened cream

1 tsp vanilla extract

30g liquid glucose

pinch of sea salt

Method

1. To make the biscuit base, preheat the oven to 160C fan-forced. Grease a slice tin, 27.5 x 17.5cm and 3.5cm high. Line the base and sides of the tin with baking paper and set aside until required.
2. Put the melted butter and brown sugar in a bowl and mix with a wooden spoon to combine. Add the flour, coconut and cinnamon. Continue to mix until the ingredients come together. Add the milk chocolate and mix to combine.
3. Press the mixture into the base of the prepared baking tin to create an even layer.
4. Bake for 15 minutes.
5. Remove from the oven and set aside at room temperature.
6. Reduce the oven temperature to 140C fan-forced.
7. For the caramel filling, combine the butter, brown sugar and vanilla in a saucepan over medium heat.
8. Once the butter has melted



and the sugar has completely dissolved, reduce the heat to low, add the condensed milk and whisk continuously until the mixture begins to simmer. Continuing to whisk, cook for a further 3 minutes until the mixture begins to thicken slightly.

9. Remove from the heat and add the dark chocolate. Mix until the chocolate is melted and incorporated into the caramel.
10. Pour the caramel filling over the biscuit base and spread to create an even layer.
11. Bake for approximately 25 minutes.
12. Remove from the oven and leave the slice to cool completely at room temperature.
13. For the ganache topping, place the chocolate in a bowl.
14. Combine the cream, vanilla, glucose and salt in a saucepan

over medium heat. Bring to the boil, then pour the mixture over the chocolate. Gently whisk until the chocolate is completely melted and incorporated into the other ingredients.

15. Pour the ganache over the cooled caramel layer and spread evenly. (For a less rich version, make the slice without the ganache topping.)
16. Place the slice in the fridge for 30 minutes to set.
17. Remove the caramel slice from the tin and cut it into 18 rectangles, approximately 9 x 2.8cm.
18. Store the slice in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 2 weeks.

Next level: To add a little dazzle, rub some edible gold lustre dust into shaved or shredded coconut and sprinkle it on top of each bar.

Makes 18 pieces.

CHOCOLATE-CHIP COOKIE SANDWICHES WITH ORANGE GANACHE

Make way for your new obsession. I'm talking chewy cookies with a lusciously smooth, melt-in-the-mouth filling with hints of crunch. A little bit fancy, and a whole lot of fun, these choc-chip cornflake cookies get a flavour boost thanks to a swirl of orange-infused chocolate ganache. They are a tantalising eating experience and an instant crowd pleaser.

Ingredients

Orange ganache:

195ml thickened cream
zest of 1 orange
1/2 tsp vanilla bean paste
430g good-quality milk chocolate

Cookies:

100g raw sugar
165g soft brown sugar
1 tsp sea salt
115g unsalted butter, softened
50g whole egg
1 tsp vanilla bean paste
155g plain flour
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
110g good-quality milk chocolate, roughly chopped
110g good-quality dark chocolate, roughly chopped
90g cornflakes, crushed

Method

1. To make the orange ganache, heat the cream, orange zest and vanilla in a saucepan over medium



heat and bring to the boil.

2. Place the milk chocolate in a bowl.

3. Once the cream is boiling, strain it over the chocolate. Whisk until the chocolate is completely melted and incorporated into the cream.

4. Cover with plastic wrap touching the surface of the ganache.

5. Leave to cool at room

temperature for two to three hours before transferring to a piping bag or snaplock bag.

6. For the cookies, preheat the oven to 170°C fan-forced. Line a baking tray with baking paper.

7. Place the raw sugar, brown

sugar, salt and butter in the

bowl of a stand mixer with a paddle attachment and beat on medium speed until smooth.

8. Add the egg and vanilla and mix to combine.

9. Sift in the flour and bicarbonate of soda and mix until incorporated.

10. Remove the bowl from the mixer, add the chocolate and crushed cornflakes and stir them through.

11. Place the cookie dough in the fridge for one hour.

12. Roll teaspoonfuls of the dough into balls. Place them on the baking tray approximately 4cm apart and gently press down on them to flatten slightly.

13. Bake for 10 minutes or until golden brown.

14. Remove from the oven and leave to cool at room temperature. Repeat with the remaining cookie dough.

15. To assemble, cut the tip off the prepared piping bag of orange-infused ganache.

16. Pipe the ganache onto every second cookie and sandwich them together with the plain cookies.

17. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to two weeks.

18. The cookie dough can be prepared in advance and stored in an airtight container in the fridge for up to three days. Allow the dough to come back to room temperature before baking.

For best results: If your room temperature is warm, place the ganache in the fridge to firm it up to piping consistency. **Fix it:** If the ganache looks grainy after you add the cream to the chocolate, add a tiny bit more cream and continue whisking.

Makes 30

LAMINGTON ICE-CREAMS WITH RASPBERRY AND COCONUT

Ingredients

White chocolate no-churn ice cream:

285ml thickened cream
1/2 tsp vanilla bean paste
75g good-quality white chocolate
200ml sweetened condensed milk
125g fresh raspberries

Ganache coating:

100g desiccated coconut
300g good-quality dark chocolate
420ml thickened cream

To assemble:

16 popsicle sticks

Method

1. To make the ice cream, combine 100ml of the cream and the vanilla in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to the boil.

2. Place the white chocolate in the bowl of a stand mixer with a whisk attachment.

3. Pour the boiled cream over the chocolate

and whisk until the chocolate is completely melted and incorporated.

4. Add the remaining cream and whisk to combine.

5. Cover with plastic wrap touching the surface of the mixture, then place in the fridge for a minimum of five hours.

6. Once the cream base mixture has chilled, place the condensed milk in the bowl of a stand mixer with a whisk attachment.

7. Pour the chilled chocolate cream mixture over the condensed milk, add the raspberries and whip on high speed until it forms soft peaks.

8. Divide the mixture among 16 mini ice cream silicone moulds, then insert a popsicle stick into each ice cream.

9. Place the ice creams in the freezer to set for at least six hours, preferably overnight.

10. For the ganache coating, tip the coconut into a bowl and set aside until required.

11. Once the ice creams are completely frozen, place the chocolate in a microwave-safe plastic

bowl and melt in the microwave on high in 30-second increments until 50% melted.

12. Heat the cream in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to the boil.

13. Pour the boiled cream over the chocolate and whisk until the chocolate is completely melted and incorporated.

14. Transfer the ganache to a tall jug or vase that is just wide enough to dip an ice cream into.

15. Dip each ice cream, one at a time, in the jug of ganache, then hold over the bowl of coconut.

16. Scoop up the coconut and sprinkle it over the ice cream until all the ganache is coated.

Alternatively, place the ganache-coated ice cream on top of the coconut and use a dessert spoon to scoop up the coconut and sprinkle it over the ice cream. Try not to move the ice cream too much while coating with coconut, as it can make the surface of the ice cream lumpy. Place the ice cream on a tray lined with baking paper and return to the freezer for a minimum of one hour before serving.



16. Store in the freezer for up to four weeks.

Any left-over ganache coating can be frozen for up to eight weeks.

Fix it: The ice cream base whips very quickly so don't walk away from the mixer. If you do happen to overmix it slightly, gently fold through some chilled cream.

Makes 16

REVIEWS by Rick Allen

TOP CLASS

Lowe Zinfandel 2017

PRICE: \$95

This is smack bang in the drinking window right now, but there's no rush - it will stay in great shape for a good few years yet. It opens with bright, rich red fruit and that typical soft mouthfeel of zinfandel. It's medium bodied, quite light on its feet in fact, with a savoury note that would make it a good food wine. It finishes with chalky tannins with a hint of sour cherry. Classy.



TOP OF THE HILL

Grove Estate Primitivo 2018

PRICE: \$40

This is from the Hilltops wine region, which is doing really well with Mediterranean varieties in general. It's from a single block planted in 1996 - and you'll note they refer to it as primitivo. Again, soft on entry, bold red fruit flavours, fine tannins and with a dark chocolate note to the dry finish. This would pair well with beef, lamb or venison.



FLAGSHIP RED

Cargo Road Zinfandel 2016

PRICE: \$45

Cargo Road is 860 metres above sea level on the northern slopes of Mt Canobolas at Orange. Zinfandel is its signature red variety, with gewurztraminer the flagship white. This has spicy apple, berry and stewed fruit aromas, followed by fleshy flavours of Christmas cake and gentle spice. It's full flavoured - the biggest of the wines - and finishes with integrated oak.





One name, four recipes: think there's only one Arnott's Ginger Nut? Think again. Picture by Elesa Kurtz.

The nation is nuts about these

Did you know there are actually four different Ginger Nut recipes? AMY MARTIN puts them to the taste test.

There are certain things you know you're going to miss when you move to a new city.

Friends and family are a given. Favourite bars and restaurants also come to mind. Perhaps even seeing your favourite sports team.

But do you know what you don't expect to miss? Your favourite biscuit, made by a large Australian company that you presume is stocked in every supermarket in the country.

And by all accounts, it is stocked in every supermarket in the country. It's just not the same recipe used to make the biscuits sold in every supermarket in the country.

I love a ginger nut biscuit. But more specifically I love the Arnott's Ginger Nut biscuit that is stocked in South Australia, West Australia and the Northern Territory (information that when I moved to Canberra five years ago, I was not aware of).

Much to my surprise, the first time I went to bite into (what I thought was) a sweet ginger-tasting biscuit in Canberra, I found a much harder, more spiced biscuit instead.

It turns out that in the 1960s there were various biscuit companies across the country, all making ginger nut biscuits that their consumers loved.

The issue came, however, when all of these companies amalgamated under the Arnott's banner.

"While at the time, Arnott's tried to consolidate the different ginger nut recipes into one, the NSW ginger nut, and distribute nationally, it was evident that each state was very passionate about the delicious ginger nut recipe they had grown up with and

loved," an Arnott's spokesperson says.

"To this date, there remain four different varieties across the country - NSW/ACT, Victoria/Tasmania, South Australia/Western Australia/Northern Territory, and Queensland.

"For those towns on the border, such as Albury-Wodonga or Tweed Heads, there is the occasional crossover of biscuits.

"We've even heard of some consumers taking their own state's version when travelling interstate to ensure they get their hometown favourite."

I can confirm that last part - every time I travel back to Western Australia, or someone visits me here, I stock up on the west coast ginger nuts.

(I'm sorry, Canberra, it's just not the same.)

But no matter where you buy them, every biscuit starts in the same place.

All four ginger nut recipes and corresponding biscuits are made in the Arnott's factory in Virginia, Queensland.

So what are the differences? We put The Canberra Times taste-testing team to work and sampled the different versions. Here are our results.

NEW SOUTH WALES AND ACT

These are the thickest and hardest of the ginger nuts we tried, so prepare your teeth for this one.

Or at least have a cuppa on hand for some dunking assistance.

It's also the lightest in colour and sits somewhere in between the sweetest and



The nation's selection of Ginger Nuts. Picture by Elesa Kurtz

spiciest ginger nut biscuits - but it's still pretty subtle in flavour.

QUEENSLAND

For me, there has always been a clear distinction between gingerbread and ginger nuts.

But that's probably because I've never had the Queensland option until now.

Darker in colour than the rest of the ginger nuts on offer, it's sweet but still has a sharpness to the spice flavour.

The biggest difference is the texture. It's the softest of all the biscuits, which is great for your teeth, but not so great for dunking in a cuppa - they're likely to fall apart.

VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

These are the closest to the traditional ginger nuts you find in Europe.

Softer than its NSW/ACT counterpart, but harder than those found in Queensland, it's the Goldilocks in terms of texture.

Flavour-wise though, this is definitely on the sweeter side, with a subtle ginger taste and almost no tingling from the spice.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND NORTHERN TERRITORY

There are very slim differences taste-wise to the Victoria and Tassie counterparts - at a pinch, it's slightly sweeter. But!

There is no denying this is a different biscuit.

Looks-wise it's like looking at a very dry desert floor.

And I wouldn't say it's a dry biscuit but there is a crispness to this variant compared to the others.

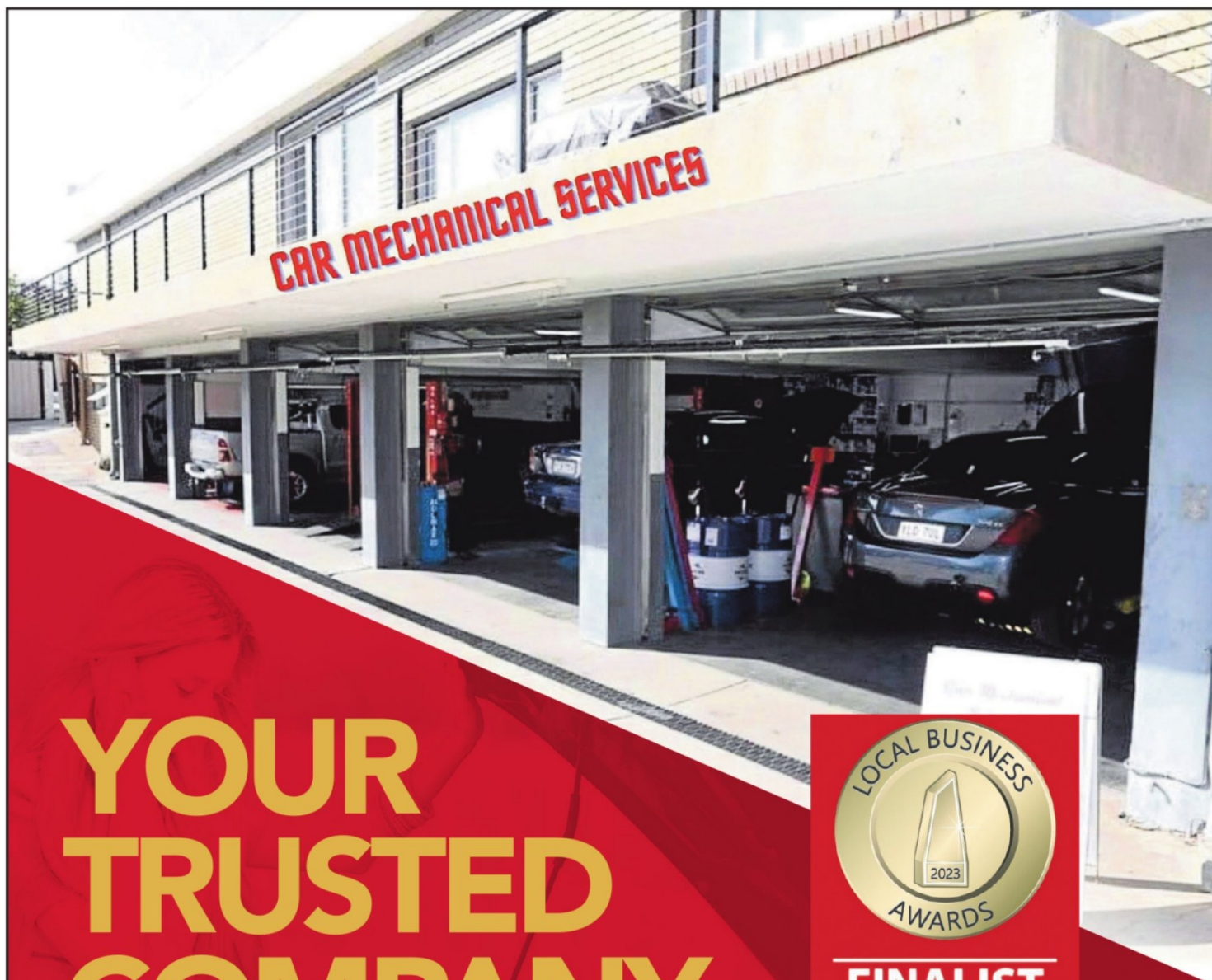


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The night of nights for local businesses

2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

HOLLYWOOD has the Oscars and the music industry has the Grammys - but for Canberra Region businesses, the annual night of nights is Tuesday, November 21.

That's the date of the 2023 Canberra Region Local Business Awards.

Precedent Productions managing director and Awards founder Steve Loe said local business owners and their staff work hard to provide the best possible service to their customers.

"That's why the annual Canberra Region Local Business Awards presentation night is always such a popular event," Mr Loe said.

"It's a glittering evening that gives finalists a chance to dress up and take a break so they can enjoy a night of entertainment, good food, relaxed chat and celebration with their colleagues and people from other businesses from around the district."

This year the presentation evening is being held at the Hellenic Club.

Mr Loe said being a finalist at the Canberra Region Local Business Awards presentation night was an enormous achievement.

"It's also a chance for business people and their teams to reflect on their successes with a fun night out," he said.

"Making it to the finalist presentation is a great reflection on their efforts and everyone is always extremely proud to be there."

"All finalists in each category are announced, with their picture shown on the big screen."

"It's heart-warming to hear the deafening cheers from the crowd as everyone celebrates the achievement of all the businesses in the room."

Businesses are nominated for a Local Business Award by the public and finalists are selected based on the number of nominations they receive.

Finalists are then judged against specific criteria which includes information provided by each finalist,

and their online presence, to determine the winners.

Mr Loe said the high quality of all nominees had made the job of judging incredibly difficult.

The Canberra Region Local Business Awards are only possible with the support of major partners, NOVA Employment and BxNetwork-



The winners of the 2022 Canberra Region Local Business Awards. Picture supplied

It's with great pleasure that I congratulate all the finalists on their achievements.

Steve Loe, Precedent Productions

ing and support partners, Coolman Court and White Key Marketing.

"It's with great pleasure that I congratulate all the finalists on their achievements, on behalf of the Canberra Region Local Business Awards," Mr Loe said.

"I would also like to thank the Canberra Region community for the huge support that they continue to show for their local businesses through the Awards every year."

"Without them, these outstanding businesses would not receive the recognition which they deserve."

Congratulations to all the 2023 finalists.





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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Awards showcase Canberra Region's best in business

2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

WITH a number of exceptional businesses operating in the Canberra Region, the Local Business Awards play a pivotal role in recognising and celebrating their success.

The Awards are presented in 25 categories including Beauty Services, Florist, Pet Care, Restaurant, Health Improvement Services, Butcher, Services & Trade, Specialised Business and Sole Operator to name a few.

There are also three major awards - Business of the Year, Business Person of the Year and the Youth Award.

The prestigious Business of the Year award is selected from the list of category winners.

In 2022, the Business of the Year award was presented to Car Mechanical Services, and they also won the Automotive Services award.

The 2022 Business Person of the Year was awarded to David Nixon from Functional Fitness Australia, while the Youth Award was won by Micky Madaffari from Woden Valley Plumbing and Gasfitting.

Awards founder and Precedent Productions managing director Steve Loe said, "The Local Business Awards recognise the vital role business people play in their communities."

"They are an integral part of every region."

Participating in awards programs like the Canberra Region Local Business Awards offers numerous benefits for entrepreneurs. It provides valuable recognition and credibility, showcasing a business's dedication and excellence to both customers and competitors.

To find out more about the Local Business Awards visit the website by going to thebusinessawards.com.au.



Car Mechanical Services won the prestigious Business of the Year in 2022. Pictures supplied



Micky Madaffari from Woden Valley Plumbing and Gasfitting was presented with the 2022 Youth Award.



2022 Business Person of the Year was awarded to David Nixon from Functional Fitness Australia.





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Master of ceremonies Paul Hancock. Pictures are from the 2022 Local Business Awards presentation evening.

It's time to celebrate

THE 2023 Canberra Region Local Business Awards presentation gala evening will be held on Tuesday, November 21 at the Hellenic Club. It is set to be a fantastic evening with some top entertainers taking to the stage as well as the much anticipated announcements of the 2023 award winners.

(Right) Baltheescakes won the 2022 Outstanding Bakery/Cake Business. (Below) There is top entertainment on the gala night.



The gala presentation evening is a great night for all involved.



Bluerydge were the recipients of the 2022 Professional Services award.



Everyone celebrates the achievements of the finalists and award winners.

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Reimagine the design of your home

2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

reimagined habitat / Efficient Habitat / Net Zero Plus

HELPING people to live in better, sustainable, more energy efficient and healthier homes has seen reimagined habitat listed as a finalist in the 2023 Canberra Region Local Business Awards.

In a world, where we are faced with rising living costs and climate change, reimagined habitat along with sister companies Efficient Habitat and Net Zero Plus can help you reimagine your habitat - both in how it works for you, and how it works in the rest of the world.

CEO Michael Drage said reimagined habitat is a Passive House design business that is designing new homes, renovations and has recently been working on a master plan for a new energy efficient sports stadium.

"Efficient Habitat is our energy efficiency analysis arm, doing over 1000 energy assessments a year and providing research and advice in

how to build better homes," Michael said. "Net Zero Plus supplies highly energy efficient triple glazed windows and panelised building solutions to the market."

The group has been running for six years and is located in Canberra, but operates across ACT and NSW.

"We aim to lead by exam-

ple and create exemplars for people. We are working on five home renovations now which take homes from 1.5-2 star energy efficiency to 7.5-8 star homes," Michael said.

"The Chifley House project, for which we won a National Sustainable House commendation last year, is an example of such a home.

These homes show local people how to improve the efficiency and liveability of their homes through simple, easy to replicate systems."

reimagined habitat started out as a building design business aiming to design highly energy efficient homes. Michael looked at global best practice in this

area and found the Passive House design standard, so he trained and qualified as a Passive House designer and started down this path. They now have five Passive House designers and consultants in their group, making them one of the largest cohorts of Passive House qualified people in the country.

Michael has recently agreed to join the board of the Building Designers Association of Australia to help drive better design and build across the country, and he also sits on the BDAA Sustainability and Climate Change Committee and is the BDAA representative to the ACT Government on policy.

Michael said that being named as a finalist at the Local Business Awards was great recognition for the team not just for their hard work, but especially for coming up with innovative designs, ideas and solutions to get the best results for their clients.

"To have community acknowledgment and support for what we are doing, in helping people build energy efficient homes, shows just how important this is in the region," Michael said. "We hope this will provide a further catalyst for more people, builders and other designers to reach out to us."

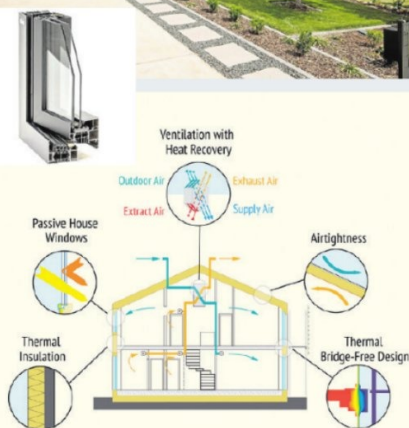
For more information phone 0419 391 282 or go reimaginedhabitat.com.au, efficienthabitat.com.au and netzeroplus.com.au.



reimagined habitat is designing Passive Houses for clients across ACT and NSW. Picture supplied

Thank you for recognising our team and our vision to help more people live in healthy, energy efficient, comfortable homes.

Between our Passive House designs, energy efficiency analytics, and our European windows and prefab home systems, we are confident that we have a way to help every new home builder or renovator create a home that lives better.



The five basic principles

Graphic: ©Passive House Institute



Please contact Michael on 0419 391 282 or visit one of our websites to learn more.

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2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS

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Congratulations to all Finalists in the 2023 Canberra Local Business Awards

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Vet offers exceptional care for your pets

2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

Capital Veterinary Hospital

THE gold standard of health-care offered to every pet that enters their doors, has seen Capital Veterinary Hospital listed as a finalist for the fifth year in a row at the Canberra Region Local Business Awards.

Capital Veterinary Hospital owner Ali Ashrafi said it is an honour to be a finalist.

"With every nomination, we feel more committed and responsible to providing the best service possible," Ali said.

"We wouldn't be here without our amazing hard-working team and the trust and loyalty of our dedicated clients. Their continued support for all that we do makes working in an often highly stressful industry very rewarding and we are forever grateful to them."

Capital Veterinary Hospital is a highly regarded, family owned and operated small animal hospital in Canberra.

Dr Ali Ashrafi opened the

practice in November 2018, fulfilling a lifelong dream of owning a veterinary hospital in Canberra. He spent many months designing a practice that reflected his personal philosophy of veterinary care.

"We have a state of the art medical facility that provides

the latest veterinary technology for the pets of Canberra and surrounding regions," Ali said.

"This, also combined with our fresh knowledge and long-standing experience, is what has given us the ability to offer services from general health checks to complex

surgeries that range from soft tissue and keyhole, to orthopaedic procedures including total hip replacements."

At Capital Veterinary Hospital, your pet is more than just an animal; they care for your pet as their own, and provide compassionate and personalised care for every

pet they see.

"They always strive to go above and beyond for their clients and patients and are committed to providing after hours and emergency veterinary services 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Capital Veterinary Hospital is a finalist in the Out-

standing Pet Care category at the 2023 awards.

"We are fortunate to have been a part of the Local Business Awards in Canberra for the last four years," Ali said.

"We were delighted to be crowned the winner for Outstanding New Business in 2019. We were then nominated as finalists for Outstanding Pet Care three years in a row and are proud to say that we won the award in 2020 and 2022.

"To add to this amazing achievement we were nominated as a finalist at the 2023 Australian Small Business Champion Awards.

"We are very thankful to Precedent Productions and the organisers of the Local Business Awards for providing us with the opportunity to gain feedback from the community for the hard work that our staff put into their jobs."

Capital Veterinary Hospital is located at 8/67 Townshend Street, Phillip. For more information phone 6282 5522, go to the website at capitalvet.com.au or find them on Facebook and Instagram at Capitalvet.



The team at Capital Veterinary Hospital have been named a finalist in the Pet Care category at the 2023 Canberra Region Local Business Awards. This is the fifth year in a row they have been a finalist. Picture supplied

WE CARE FOR ALL PETS AS IF THEY WERE OUR OWN - WE STRIVE TO PROVIDE COMPASSIONATE AND PERSONALISED CARE FOR EVERY PET WE SEE.

Capital Veterinary Hospital is pleased to serve the ACT and the surrounding areas. It is our goal at Capital Veterinary Hospital to provide the very best veterinary care to your pets as our patients. Our doctors and hospital staff strive to continue their education to bring you the highest quality care available. We also want you and your pets to feel comfortable while in our office.

Our philosophy is to care for all pets as if they were ours. To us, this means we are going to give them the same love, attention, and care as though we were their owner. We are a team of animal lovers here to give our patients the attention and care they deserve. We are also here for you! We know that being a pet owner can be challenging and scary. We want to give your pets the lives they deserve. We know the best way to do that is to help you.



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Goodstart Early Learning - Garrahan
Woden Valley Early Learning Centre
Goodstart Early Learning - Braddon
Wattle Early Childhood Centre
Guardian Childcare & Education Forrest

EDUCATION SERVICE

Mindful Munchkinz
Oceania Education and Visa Services Canberra
Queanbeyan & District Preschool Association
Beck's Transport Training
Canberra First Aid
Black Bull Performance Group
Kumon Gungahlin Education Centre
JUMP! Swim Schools Fyshwick
ACTWell First Aid Training
Himalayan Business Group
Aquatots
Gooromon Park Horse Riding Centre
Jass Learning Hub

FAST FOOD/TAKEAWAY

Tikka Stand
Turkish Halal Pide House
Third Eye Grill
Zambrello Tuggeranong
Soul Origin - Westfield Belconnen
Acai Brothers - Canberra Centre
Top Juice - Belconnen
Melted Toasted Sandwich Emporium

FITNESS SERVICES

Anytime Fitness Charnwood
Down to Lift
Wellbeing Pilates Studio
Feel Better Pilates
XTEND Canberra City
Driven Personal Trainers
Functional Fitness Australia
Farquhars Boxing
Curves - Belconnen
Fitness First - Canberra Centre
Galvanized Fitness

FLORIST

Poetry In Flowers - Marketplace Gungahlin
Anthos Flowers - Gungahlin Village
Hyacinth Bouquets - Bungendore
Moxom + Whitney Florist
Bewitched Flowers & Gifts

HAIRDRESSER

UNO Hair Design
Hair and Her Canberra
Karma hair & beauty lounge
The Colour Bar
L'Homme Hair Stylist - Westfield
Aesthete Hair Canberra
Pura Holistic Hair Studio
Men's Biz - Canberra
Bentleys Hair of Canberra - Jerrabomberra
Chisholm Hair Works - Chisholm
Polychroma Hair Colour Specialists
Bond Hair Religion - Green Square
Just Cuts - Cooleman Court
Socialise Hair
Truefitt & Hill - Canberra
Big Barber Shop Weston Creek

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Dental Embassy Canberra
Shine On
Momentum Sports & Rehabilitation
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Tunde-World
Civic Gentle Dental Care
Capital Chiropractic Centre
Balanced Yoga
Nurseaid
Identity Dentistry

JEWELLERY STORE

Angus & Coote - Canberra Centre
Angus & Coote - Southpoint
Harlequin Jewellers
KIN Gallery
Devine Goddess - Westfield Belconnen
Pandora - Westfield Belconnen

NEW BUSINESS

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Estetique Cosmetic Injectables
ACT Barks and Recreation
Mantra DJ and Decor
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The Topsy Sketching Club
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CANBERRA REGION LOCAL AWARDS FINALISTS FOR 2023



FINALIST
CANBERRA REGION

Dance Northside
Louise May Dance Studio

PET CARE

Animal Behaviour Matters
The Dawg Studio
Pups4Fun Canberra - Play, Pamper, Balance
Capital Veterinary Hospital
Canberra Cat Vet
Hanrob Pet Hotels - Canberra
All Round Good Hounds
Pip's Pet Sitting
Louie Loves Em Dog Treats
Melba Veterinary Clinic
Isabels Dog Grooming

PHARMACY

Capital Chemist Calwell
Capital Chemist Chisholm
Priceline Pharmacy Tuggeranong
Discount Drug Store
Capital Chemist Dickson
Gold Creek Discount Drug Store
Capital Chemist Lyneham
Cooleman Court Pharmacy

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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Kritan Photography
theapixels
Tecza IT
Successful Alliances
Pipeline Talent
PAQ Group Bookkeeping
The Architecture Practice
Parker Coles Curtis
YNOT Consulting Services
Wide Services
Marquette Financial
Aussie Home Loans Weston Creek

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La Casa Property Group
LJ Hooker Tuggeranong
Blackshaw Real Estate Weston Creek & Molonglo
One Agency Gungahlin
LMM Solutions

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Tea Connoisseur
Classic Indian Restaurant
Zeytin Turkish Cuisine
Sweet Mahal
Dawat-e-Punjab Indian Restaurant
Rebel Rebel
Raku Japanese Restaurant
Courgette Restaurant
Tikka Take
Wild Duck Fine Asian Cuisine
CocoNine

SERVICE & TRADE

Netier
Leaky Roof
Instyle Bathroom Renovations Canberra
Sittis Roofing
Christies Landscapes
Laid Right Concreting Service
Tapped Out Brick and Blocklaying
reimagined habitat
Versed Pools
PB Fencing
JML Plumbing & Gas
PWC Property Works
Canberra Water, Gas & Air
True Connection Electrical
Rydeau Plumbing
Synergy Four Services
Doctors Move

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Missy's Magic Styles
Kirative Images
Baske Beauty Studio
AFA Support Coordination
Infinite Hairstyling
Sumitra Joshi Hair and Makeup Artist
The Funky Fairy | Children's Entertainer | Canberra

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Doko Cleaning Services
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PlushPlay - Mobile Soft Play Hire
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SCAN TO BOOK



FINALIST In the Hairdresser/Barber category

Barbershop a testament to excellence and tradition

2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

Truefitt & Hill - Canberra

IN THE heart of Canberra, Truefitt & Hill - Canberra stands as a beacon of traditional grooming and exceptional service.

As a four-time finalist of the Canberra Region Local Business Awards, their establishment is not just a barbershop; it's a legacy that has been meticulously crafted over the years.

Service and commitment to quality

At Truefitt & Hill - Canberra, they offer a suite of grooming services that cater to the modern man while upholding the timeless traditions of male grooming.

Managing director, Khushwant Dhanoa said from precision haircuts to classic shaves, their master barbers ensure every service is performed to the highest standard.

"Our clients leave not just looking their best but feeling their best, too," he said.

A rich history and prime location

The Truefitt & Hill - Canberra journey began with a commitment to excellence that has only deepened since their doors first opened. Nestled in the bustling streets of Canberra, the shop has become a local landmark where tradition meets contemporary luxury.

Standing apart in a crowded market

"What sets us apart is our unwavering dedication to the customer experience and our deep understanding of male grooming," Mr Dhanoa said. "We don't just offer a service; we provide an experience that celebrates the individuality of each client."

Recognition and awards

Truefitt & Hill - Canberra's journey through the competitive landscape of grooming services has been marked by significant milestones and accolades.

As a four-time finalist in the Canberra Region Local Business Awards, they have proudly taken home the trophy in the Hairdresser/Barber category in both 2020 and 2022.

"These wins are a testament to our team's dedication and the high standards we set for ourselves," Mr Dhanoa said.

"The pinnacle of our achievements was being crowned the Best Barber in Australia at the Australian Small Business Champion Awards in 2023.

"This national recognition is not just an award; it's a symbol of the trust and loyalty our customers have bestowed upon us.

"It validates our efforts to maintain the legacy of Truefitt & Hill as a leader in men's grooming, both locally and across the nation.

"Each award we receive propels us to set



Truefitt & Hill - Canberra offer a suite of grooming services. Picture supplied

the bar even higher, ensuring that we continue to offer an unmatched experience to every client who walks through our doors."

The honour of recognition

Being nominated and listed as a finalist is a humbling experience.

For Truefitt & Hill - Canberra it reaffirms their dedication to their craft and the trust their clients place in them.

"It's a nod to our team's hard work and the ethos that Truefitt & Hill - Canberra embodies," Mr Dhanoa said.

Looking ahead

"As we reflect on our achievements, we remain focused on the future. Our vision is to continue setting the standard for male grooming, ensuring that every visit to Truefitt & Hill - Canberra is an experience in itself."

Contact information

For those who wish to experience the pinnacle of male grooming, visit Truefitt & Hill - Canberra at 4B, 21 Genge St, Canberra, call them on 0488 688 747, or email cbr@truefittandhill.com.au.

Follow their journey at truefittandhill.com.au and on social media to stay updated on their services and accolades.



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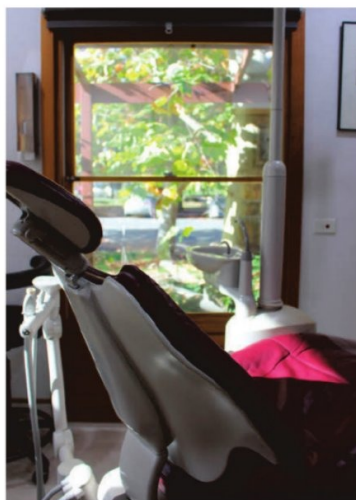
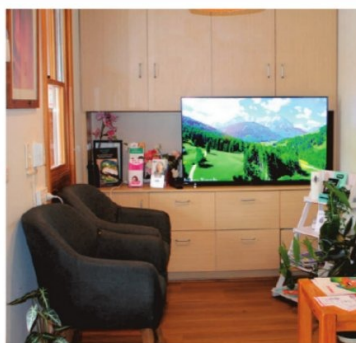
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At Crystal Ballroom Canberra, we take immense pride in being a dedicated space for the thriving ballroom dance community in Canberra. Our founder, Joel Player, is not only the owner but also a passionate ballroom dancer himself.

Joel's vision for Crystal Ballroom Canberra is to provide a welcoming haven for all ballroom dance studios, students, and teachers in the Canberra community. We're here to support and nurture the love of dance, and we wholeheartedly extend an invitation to all dance studios to make use of our facility.

It's worth noting that while Joel does dance at Dales Ballroom Dancing, Crystal Ballroom Canberra is open to everyone, regardless of their affiliation. We believe in inclusivity and aim to offer our space at available times to accommodate the needs of the entire dance community.

Don't be misled by our name and mission. Our studio is a perfect fit for a wide range of dance and fitness activities, including Zumba, Jazzercise, and Calisthenics classes. Whether you're in search of a venue for private lessons or group classes, Crystal Ballroom Canberra has got you covered.

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2023 CANBERRA REGION LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS FINALISTS

Ciao Café and Cakes Queanbeyan

YOU can't have a celebration without cake, and at Ciao Café and Cakes in Queanbeyan they will help you celebrate your special occasion in style with a delicious and perfectly decorated cake.

These impressive cake creations, along with their quality café and catering services, has seen the business listed as a finalist in the Bakery/Cake category at the 2023 Canberra Region Local Business Awards.

New owners Connie Zarb and Damien Hick, who took over the business in February 2022, said they produce all their cakes on the premises and offer cheesecakes, tarts, mudcakes, pavlovas, speciality custom cakes as well as small desserts like cannoli, apple turnovers, old fashioned rocky road, profiteroles, eclairs, lamingtons, various slices and tarts.

Their speciality custom cakes are purchased for wed-

dings, birthdays and other occasions and they recently created a Navy cake for Freedom of Entry to Queanbeyan as well as a cake to celebrate Canberra Raiders player Jarrod Croker's 300th game.

"Some of our well-known cakes are the traditional

German Black Forest cake with Kirsch (which we supply to the Harmonie German Club), Oreo cheesecake, Bee Sting torte and classic mudcake to name just a few," Damien said.

"All the cakes are baked from scratch with real cream,



Ciao Café and Cakes in Queanbeyan offers quality cakes, coffee, café meals and catering. Pictures supplied

real cheese, real chocolate etc. We wholesale our cakes to businesses across the region."

Ciao Café and Cakes make vegan, gluten free, lactose free and eggless cakes which are very popular across the Canberra region and beyond for those with allergies or specific dietary requirements.

"We can tailor products to people's needs as a custom cake," Damien said. "We have regular customers from the South Coast and towns like Cooma who travel to us to pick up cakes and desserts."

Ciao Café and Cakes is a great spot for a fantastic coffee and they have a range

of delicious café food available for breakfast and lunch such as bacon and egg rolls, hamburgers with handmade patties and their own unique sauce as well as eggs benedict, big breakfast and the popular breaky wrap.

Catering is also offered to businesses across Canberra and other community groups.

Speaking of being an awards finalist Damien and Connie said it was great to be acknowledged by their local community.

"Being nominated by locals means more to us than anything. Small business is very hard work and very long hours so some acknowl-

edgement is always great to receive," they said.

While Ciao Café and Cakes has been around since 2012, and before that was Continental Cakes, Connie and Damien (a military veteran) purchased the business in February 2022, the Ciao store in Braddon was also sold to new owners, and is now run separately to the Queanbeyan business.

"We are known for our good old-fashioned country service and our high quality cakes and coffee," Damien said. "We are very community minded and people know us for this. We are big believers in being involved in our community."

Ciao Café and Cakes support many local groups such as Legacy, Win the Day, the Queanbeyan Show (where they both sit on the committee and sponsor the Art, Craft, Cookery and Produce Pavilion) and they also support local veterans with coffee meetings.

Located at 200 Crawford St, Queanbeyan. For more information phone 6299 7707 or go to the website at ciao cafeandcakes.com.au.



Ciao Cafe & Cakes

Ciao Cafe & Cakes believe in old fashioned cake production. All cakes and desserts are made on premises from scratch using real ingredients. Our cheesecakes are made with real cream and cheese, we produce a traditional Black Forest Cake with Kirsch following a traditional South German recipe; we are proud to make a traditional German Black Forest for the Harmonie German Club.

We have been a part of the Queanbeyan community for over 25 years and are proud supporters of Legacy Queanbeyan, Win the Day charity and sponsor events like the Queanbeyan Show.

We also offer catering across the Canberra/Queanbeyan region, all freshly produced on our premises.



200 Crawford St, Queanbeyan , cakesbyciao@gmail.com, (02) 6299 7707

OPENING HOURS

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eighty/twenty

the cafe



Eighty/Twenty The cafe, founded by passionate foodies, offers a delicious cup of coffee and wholesome breakfast and lunch. Using fresh ingredients, expert baristas craft the perfect cup of coffee, while the cafe's kitchen prepares meals from scratch. Chefs are passionate about creating healthy, delicious dishes, satisfying cravings with classic breakfast sandwiches and hearty salads.

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23 Lathlain Street

Kingston:

15 Tench Street



POPE'S VIEW

WAITING FOR THE FUTURE FUND...



This is par for the course for utopian progressives. That's clear from the carnage they've left behind them.

Vasily Martin, Queanbeyan, NSW

first was to see, along with 40,000 others, the legendary Paul McCartney in concert at the Allianz Stadium in Sydney.

Then I attended the wonderful Selby and Friends concert at the Fairfax Theatre at the NGA. As always, the latter was memorable; magnificent music played superbly by the brilliant Catherine Selby and her two outstanding guest artists.

Three generations of my family attended the McCartney concert and we all loved it. The vast audience added to the atmosphere, absolutely silent and still at appropriate times and showing enthusiastic appreciation at the end of numbers. It's a night I'll long remember.

I'll remember the Selby concert too. Unfortunately it was spoilt by a man a few seats along the row, who felt it necessary to conduct the Schubert piano trio from beginning to end.

Frankly, Mr Second Rower, I was not impressed by your ability to tap and wave in time to the music, nor by your perceived knowledge of the score which you were keen to show off to us all.

The constant distraction was not only exceedingly annoying, but detracted from my enjoyment of an brilliant concert.

Please stay at home next time or sit in the very back row.

Virginia Berger, Barton

Better informed?

I think the most likely reason for our high "yes" vote in the Voice referendum and the republic referendum in the ACT is that most voters know at least one middle or senior ranking public servant well enough to have private conversations about government.

We get to know what our elected repre-

sentatives and their political staffers actually do and say out of sight and earshot of voters elsewhere.

As a mere minion I used to read on files the handwritten notes of ministers and occasionally had one-on-one conversations with them.

That gives one some insights not available to non-public servants.

John F Simmons, Kambah

Life and death

Life is a combination of things that we can and can't control.

Accepting this amounts to a true appreciation for life.

Obviously, death belongs to the category of things that humans ultimately have no control over. So when the bleeding hearts - or better yet, those who would exploit them - get hold of the reins, we only get more people in charge who hate life.

As such, where some see the ACT's voluntary assisted dying laws as a great leap forward for humanity, all I see is more evidence of people who pretend to love life so as to destroy it.

This is par for the course for utopian progressives. That's clear from the carnage they've left behind them.

Vasily Martin, Queanbeyan, NSW

Redistribution season

It is the season for electoral redistributions and, like the eastern koels of summer, schemes and claims by the major parties to gain advantage and over representation by shifting the borders of electorates abound.

All this could be ended by a policy or dare one say a referendum, to insist on "one vote, one value" by having a reduced number of multiple member constituencies and "top up" members.

The nearly 50 NSW federal seats could be replaced by about 10 metropolitan and regional seats with half the members being directly elected and the other half added.

This would ensure that a party with 38 per cent of the vote only gets 38 per cent of the MPs. The minor parties would also gain MPs equivalent to their actual first preference vote.

Garry P Dalrymple, Earlwood, NSW

Denounce Hamas

I observe with horror how a thinking, civilised West refuses to unite in indignation at the unspeakable atrocities committed by Hamas on October 7 while citing a spurious "equivalence" between those atrocities and the tragic victims of a defensive war forced onto Israel.

For intelligent Australians to scream with jihadists among Palestinian supporters, "From the River to the Sea" is saying no less than voicing support for the extermination of all of Israel.

What is happening in our streets is nothing less than a revival of the ancient Jew-hatred that led to the Holocaust.

Frank Selch, Farrer

HAVE YOUR SAY

Letters to the Editor should be kept to 250 or fewer words. To the Point letters should not exceed 50 words. Reference to *The Canberra Times* reports should include date and page number. Provide a phone number and address (only your suburb will be published). Email letters.editor@canberratimes.com.au with your letter in the message field.

Responsibility for election comment is taken by John-Paul Moloney of 121 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra. Published by Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty Ltd.

LIGHT RAIL WORKS

Buses never attracted the support needed for a workable public transport system. Most won't catch a bus if they can use a car. Light rail boosted interest in public transport. It is the most promising option.

David Purnell, Florey

THE REPUBLIC IS DEAD

As the debate over the Voice dies away, the silence of republicans is deafening. Canberra's suburbs are a roll call of founding fathers who set a very high bar for those who would change the constitution. We will not see a republic in our lifetimes.

Robert Willson, Deakin

BUCK STOPS WHERE?

The Optus CEO has overseen two of the most high profile and public stuff-ups in Australia's corporate history in the space of barely one year. She, and the board, failed to ensure the security of Optus's services on both occasions. Shouldn't she accept the buck stops here and resign?

Ross Hudson, Mount Martha, Vic

GET IT RIGHT

Amanda Vanstone's Arthur "Caldwell" [Calwell] and Jack Waterford's Stephen "Gagelar" [Gageler] are two recent examples of misspellings of personages' surnames. Does nobody check spellings?

Frank Marris, Barton

ISRAEL'S VIETNAM?

Netanyahu's misadventure is beginning to resemble Vietnam. Israel's PR machine is endeavouring to win "hearts and minds" and producing "five o'clock follies" figures based on "if it's dead and Palestinian it's a Hamas terrorist".

Albert M White, Queanbeyan, NSW

SOVEREIGNTY MATTERS

The real story behind Albo's flying photo op to Tuvalu was to bully Tuvalu into handing over its sovereign right to decide its own diplomatic and foreign policy. Well done Albo. In one fell swoop Labor has established its credentials as a party of neo-colonialism in the Pacific.

Peter Ellett, Scullin

QUITE THE BACKFLIP

Having, together with the PM, done nothing in the last month but, via unconditional support, fuel Israel's already traditionally gargantuan entitlement to punish Palestinians disproportionately, collectively and absolutely as it sees fit, Penny Wong now discovers a reason to retreat from the fruits of her labours on Gaza.

Alex Mattea, Sydney, NSW

WHAT WOULD HE KNOW?

How the heck would Mr Hersch of Denver, Colorado (Letters, November 12) know anything about the feral horse problem in the Australian Alps? He exhibits no knowledge of the huge environmental pressure feral horses are causing to Australia's fragile and very limited mountain ecosystems.

Roderick Holesgrove, Crace

SAD BUT TRUE

On inflation: Max Kauffmann observed that among the many things that money can't buy is what it used to.

M F Horton, Adelaide, SA

ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO BE

Monday's (November 13) editorial stated "Israel exists". What you should have said is that "Israel is entitled to exist". So too are the Palestinians and a Palestinian state. Can the world ensure neither Hamas nor any entity with such aims is ever allowed to govern Palestinian territory again?

Warwick Davis, Isaacs

OPINION

How Optus can avoid another outage

MARK A. GREGORY



AROUND 4.05am on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, Optus suffered a nationwide network outage lasting well into the evening, more than 12 hours later.

Now, Optus has released some information on what happened, stating "we now know what the cause was and have taken steps to ensure it will not happen again".

As a telecommunications expert, I believe we should have no confidence in this statement, because the poorly worded explanation leaves many questions unanswered.

Could a similar outage happen again? We don't know - but there are ways to make it less likely.

How did the outage unfold?

The Optus outage caused all services to go offline. Landlines, mobile phones, home internet, small business and enterprise, and cloud connections all dropped out.

The most serious impact of the outage was that Optus landlines couldn't dial triple zero and Optus mobile phones were unable to connect to the triple zero emergency call service unless the connection occurred through Telstra or Vodafone infrastructure.

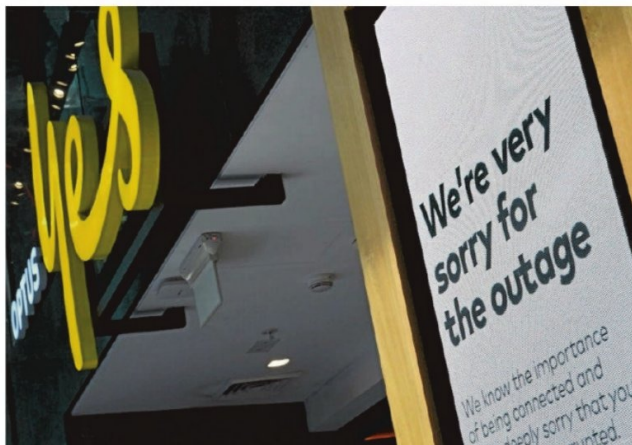
More than 10 million Optus customers were affected by the outage that brought Melbourne's trains to a halt and left Optus's small business customers unable to carry out eftpos transactions.

So, what went wrong with Optus?

Optus has revealed that a "routine software upgrade" triggered a cascading failure in the Optus internet protocol (IP) core network - the central backbone of their network that authorises device access and provides customer management.

Optus has provided a brief answer on why the entire network went offline:

"These routing information changes propagated through multiple layers in our



Another Optus outage could be just around the corner. Picture AAP

The explanation provided by Optus points to human error. This confirms what industry experts suspected had happened.

network and exceeded preset safety levels on key routers which could not handle these. This resulted in those routers disconnecting from the Optus IP Core network to protect themselves."

Routing information is used to find a path from one location on the internet to another - a router is a device that manages the traffic flows.

The explanation provided by Optus points to human error. This confirms what industry experts suspected had happened. The resulting flood of "routing information changes" overwhelmed key routers in the core network

causing them to disconnect, thereby bringing the entire network to a halt.

Should the outage have been preventable?

Outages of this kind are not uncommon - human error has led to major companies going offline in the past.

But an entire telecommunications network going offline is unusual. The network should be designed in such a way that redundancy (backups) and resiliency are built in from the outset.

Before a software upgrade occurs, there should be modelling, testing and several layers of sign-off.

In case something goes wrong, there should be infrastructure and system redundancy. An automated or manual procedure should exist to ensure the redundant systems become operational within a few minutes.

In 2021, Facebook, WhatsApp and Instagram disappeared from the internet for roughly six hours due to an incorrect routing configuration. Meta's lengthy and informative statement at the time provides an exam-

ple of the level of detail that we should expect Optus to provide.

With the Optus outage and similar incidents at other companies that have led to major outages, in nearly every case the outage was preventable and highlighted deficiencies in the organisation.

What should Optus do now?

The national outage means the Optus network is not fit for purpose.

It can be assumed Optus has a number of deficiencies, such as problems with engineering capability, testing, procedures, network redundancy and resilience.

Optus states they are "committed to learning from what has occurred" and will continue to work to "increase the resilience" of their network.

For this to lead to an effective outcome, Optus will need to carry out a review and put in place new processes, infrastructure and systems to prevent a similar outage in the future.

How do we know a similar outage won't happen again?

We don't.

We need enhanced government regulation of the Australian telecommunications network operators to provide improved visibility of the redundancy and resilience of their networks. The Senate has commenced an inquiry into the Optus outage.

Telecommunications is an essential service. Australians should be able to connect to the triple zero emergency call service at all times. Reliable access to medical services, eftpos and the internet are vital.

If necessary, penalties should be introduced into the Telecommunications Act 1997 to ensure telecommunications network operators implement and maintain "best practice" related to network operation, redundancy and resilience.

■ Mark A Gregory is associate professor, School of Engineering, RMIT University.

■ This article first appeared in The Conversation.

Laws all trucked up when it comes to cross-country freight

WARREN CLARK



THE trucking industry can lay claim to being the most heavily shackled sector in Australia.

That's largely understandable. Safety must be the number-one concern in any environment where heavy vehicles interact with smaller ones. What's less fathomable is how a \$66 billion a year industry can operate without a truly national, consistent set of laws.

There is something called Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) that tries hard to live up to its name. But when it started in February 1984, Western Australia and the Northern Territory staunchly remained outside its reach - and remain so.

The other jurisdictions are a bewildering mishmash of regulatory red tape with differing rules that are highly technical.

The only common thread is an enforcement regime that's heavy-handed and works contrary to the principle that punishments must be proportionate to so-called crimes.

If you're a motorist, can you imagine a law that fines you for misspelling a place name

or not drawing a straight line in a logbook? Or missing a mandated rest break by three minutes because you were looking for somewhere to safely park?

Welcome to the world of the long-haul truck driver. To understand why Australia lacks harmonised truck laws, you need to go back to 1901 when Australia became a federated nation.

The railways were owned by state governments who zealously protected them. The new constitution was silent on the Commonwealth government's powers over road transport, so it was left to the states to regulate as they saw fit.

To be fair, there were no trucks back then - only stagecoaches, and horse and carts. To preserve their own revenue bases, the states imposed levies on carriers of goods on roads across borders.

This appeared at odds with section 92 of the constitution that deemed "trade, commerce and intercourse" between the states should be "absolutely free" but it took a long time for anybody to test it.

A group of truckies put a copy of the constitution in a wheelbarrow in 1952 and pushed it by hand between Melbourne and Sydney to highlight this. It took them 11 days - which was 48 hours quicker than a parcel

mailed at the same time and sent by rail.

Their point was well made but it took a successful High Court action against the state of NSW by a private transport company to force the hands of lawmakers.

The subsequent lifting of levies started discussions about the harmonising road transport rules.

It took until the late 1970s for states to even agree on a uniform configuration for interstate trucks. To this day, states have differing rules for what types of truck can use their bridges.

B-doubles are a common sight on Australian highways but were banned until 1984, despite being widely used overseas.

Only last month, truck width laws were changed to allow the wider, more efficient vehicles operating in Europe to be legal here.

Several states are now trialling new mass limits to open the door to large electric vehicles with their substantial on-board battery payloads.

There's talk that some in our industry want the review put on hold for another year, so Queensland can hold its election. Let's hope that thought doesn't take hold.

The more practical view is that the bureaucrats need to pull their collective fingers out and overhaul the mass of regulations

underpinning the law. Legislative change can come after that.

The Albanese government is empowering the Fair Work Commission to put minimum standards in place that are designed to assist positive change. Road transport in Australia is largely run by owner operators and small companies. Like everybody, they're doing it tough. Their difficulties were evident long before the disruption of COVID-19 and soaring fuel prices became a way of life.

My association's members report their operating margins are now at about 2 per cent, and problems like a chronic shortage of drivers and diesel mechanics in an ageing industry are only gathering speed.

Making the national freight task safer and more efficient is more important than ever. The global move towards decarbonisation adds urgency. Truck operators want to do their part in a sensible and measured way that doesn't send them to the wall. That will require policymakers to work hand-in-hand with industry. As you can see from the snail's pace of regulatory reform, that's rarely, if ever, been the case.

■ Warren Clark is CEO of the National Road Transport Association, the country's largest representative body of road transport operators.

We can still fix the Stage 3 tax cuts

There's still time, and plenty of electoral and economic reasons to rejig the planned cuts.

PETER
MARTIN



THE Albanese government is about to have to make a really important decision.

It's going to have to decide what's more important: supporting Australians who are financially under water, or keeping an election promise.

And it'll have to do it soon. It's already working on its May budget, now just six months away.

That choice will affect almost every Australian, and it could shape whether you're thousands of dollars a year better off - or not - from July next year.

When Labor took office in May 2022, Australians were doing well. Consumer spending and economic growth were on the up and up, and mortgage rates and rents were only starting to climb.

A promise to keep the proposed multi-billion dollar Stage 3 tax cuts - announced but not implemented by the Coalition back in 2018 - seemed worth making to clear away any reasons any voters might have not to vote Labor.

Household budgets are shrinking

Since May 2022, just about everything has got worse for "ordinary" Australians - those on typical incomes, which are about \$85,000 for full-time workers and \$43,000 for adult part-time workers.

The best measure of the buying power of after-tax incomes is real household disposable income per capita. During the past year, it shrank 5.3 per cent, which is more than it shrank in either the early 1990s recession or the global financial crisis.

On my calculations, it's the worst collapse in 40 years.

From those incomes have to be taken rents and mortgage payments.

The Reserve Bank says scheduled mortgage payments are now taking up a larger share of household disposable income than at any time in history - 10 per cent when averaged over all households, including those that don't have mortgages, and many times that for those that do.

This means when you go to the supermarket and find you can't afford what you used to, you're not imagining it. It hasn't been like this in decades, and it's about to get worse.

The Christmas bonus is missing

In the lead up to each of the past four Christmases, ordinary earners have received a bonus from the tax office - the so-called low and middle income earner tax offset, initially worth \$1080 and increased to \$1500 in 2022.

This year, it's gone. It means middle-earners' pre-Christmas tax refunds will be up to \$1500 smaller or replaced with bills. Taxpayers who normally have a tax bill will get a bill up to \$1500 bigger.

An estimated 10.5 million Australians submitted their tax forms by October 31.

Most of them - most of those earning up to \$90,000 and previously eligible for the full \$1500 offset - are about to find themselves a good deal worse off.



Treasurer Jim Chalmers and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese have a big decision to make. Picture by Elesia Kurtz

Average earners will lose

The very expensive Stage 3 tax cuts (costing \$20 billion in their first year, and \$313 billion over 10 years) were meant to come to the rescue. They begin next July.

Speaking notes prepared for Treasurer Jim Chalmers and released under freedom of information laws say they will provide relief to low and middle earners and kick in at \$45,000.

But someone on that income will get no relief. That person will lose an offset of \$1275 in return for a tax cut of zero. Someone on a higher wage of \$50,000 will lose \$1500 in order to gain \$125, and someone earning the typical full-time wage of \$85,000 will have to lose \$1500 to gain just \$1000.

That's right, a typical full-time worker will get relief of \$1000 from the Stage 3 tax cuts in return for losing the axed tax offset of \$1500.

Much higher earners will do much, much better. An Australian earning twice as much as is typical - \$190,000 - will get \$7500. An Australian earning a bit more than that again - \$200,000 - will get \$9000.

Labor has been handed an opportunity

Handing \$9000 to a high earner but only \$1000 to an ordinary full-time earner is an

indulgence that might have seemed okay when it looked as if ordinary earners were doing alright, or wouldn't notice.

But it's about to happen, and it's about to cost \$20 billion in its first year. That's as much as the government plans to spend on the pharmaceutical benefits scheme in that year and almost twice what it plans to spend on higher education.

What if it kept the tax cuts, but reoriented them to Australians who actually needed them - to the more than 80 per cent of Australians who earn less than \$120,000 a year - while still providing generous cuts to those who earned more than \$120,000?

That's a task Matt Grudnoff and Greg Jericho set themselves at the Australia Institute, coming up with four options. Each of those four would cost less than Stage 3 cuts; deliver more to Australians on less than \$120,000 - and even fund a \$250 per fortnight increase in the JobSeeker unemployment benefit.

Jericho's punchline, delivered to the revenue summit at Parliament House last month: "I actually wish it was harder than it was".

Option 4 costs \$70 billion less over 10 years but leaves every taxpayer earning up to \$132,000 better off. It doubles the tax cut Stage 3 gives to a typical full-time earner on

\$85,000, and still gives high earners \$2197 a year each. His point wasn't that this is the best option. It was that there *are* options, many of which give the bulk of Australians - the stressed ordinary voters Labor and the Coalition will need in the next election - much more than Stage 3.

What's wrong with making 80 per cent of the electorate better off at a time when they desperately need it, and cutting future budget deficits by \$70 billion?

Only that it would break a promise, and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese likes keeping promises.

But when asked in an Australia Institute survey what was more important - keeping a promise or reacting to changing economic circumstances - 61 per cent picked reacting to changing circumstances. Even among Coalition voters, 56 per cent supported reacting to changing circumstances.

It puts the Stage 3 tax cuts in play. There's still time, and plenty of electoral and economic reasons to rejig them.

■ Peter Martin is economics editor of *The Conversation* and a former economics editor of *The Canberra Times*. He is a visiting fellow at the Crawford School of Public Policy. This article was first published in *The Conversation*.

BUSINESS

AMP shareholders back settlement

SHAREHOLDERS claiming they were impacted by a "deliberate" AMP policy to charge fees for no service have overwhelmingly backed a \$110 million settlement with the financial firm. The NSW Supreme Court has also found the deal reasonable and in the interests of affected investors.

After the settlement was reached with the Maurice Blackburn-led class action in August, over 18,700 investors were notified of the multi-million-dollar compromise and given the chance to raise concerns. Only one investor objected to the settlement on the "misunderstanding"

they had been instead promised full compensation for a drop in share value allegedly caused by AMP's conduct.

The amount reached in the compromise only reflected a portion of the total claimed in the class action, barrister Cameron Moore, SC, said in court on Tuesday. Large corporate shareholders and mum-and-dad investors - referred to as group members in legal terms - have lined up to get their cut of the \$110 million payout, which AMP agreed to on the eve of a 15-day hearing.

Lawyers for the class-action plaintiffs and AMP appeared before acting Justice

They (shareholders) are getting a meaningful percentage of the total.

Barrister Cameron Moore

Michael Elkaim, who approved the deal on Tuesday afternoon. Maurice Blackburn will recoup over \$26 million in legal costs from the total settlement amount for running the case since 2018 and will snag an extra \$1.1 million for future work in deciding the amounts owed to each investor. A further \$60,000 has been approved for the two lead plaintiffs for

their work in the case.

Mr Moore earlier told the court the "vast majority" of the proceeds would go to group members despite these deductions. "They are getting a meaningful percentage of the total cut," he said.

The plaintiffs allege AMP had a deliberate policy in place to charge customers fees for financial advice

services even though those people did not have advisers in place at the time. AMP head of financial advice Anthony Regan admitted there was "no legal basis" for this policy when interrogated at the banking royal commission in April 2018, the court heard. But that information should have been revealed to the public prior to the royal commission, Mr Moore said.

Those who purchased AMP shares from May 2012 up until that time say they paid an inflated price and that if the alleged misconduct had been disclosed, it would have negatively impacted the firm's share value.

Consumers, businesses still wary about the future: survey

ANOTHER interest rate hike has flattened consumer mood, with the business community also cautious about what's to come. The Westpac and Melbourne Institute monthly consumer sentiment survey has picked up a sharp fall in responses following the Reserve Bank's decision to lift interest rates by another 25 basis in November. The index fell by 2.6 per cent to 79.9 index points in November, down from 82 in October.

Westpac senior economist Matthew Hassan said the latest cash rate hike to 4.35 per cent renewed pressure on family finances. "Previous months had been showing some tentative signs that sentiment was starting to lift out of the deep pessimism that has prevailed since the middle of last year," he said. "That rally looks to have been cut short."

The fall was driven by a sharp deterioration in consumer expectations linked to family finances over the next year, which dropped 7.3 per cent. The weekly ANZ



Consumer confidence dropped by 2.6 per cent in November after the central bank hiked rates. Picture AAP

and Roy Morgan index also dropped off in the wake of the rate hike, sinking 3.5 index points to 74.3.

Australians also remain pessimistic, with the National Australia Bank's

monthly survey recording a three point fall to negative two index points in October. Conditions for running a business improved one point to 13 index points. NAB chief economist Alan Oster said

the generous gap between conditions and confidence had persisted over the course of a year. "Businesses clearly remain cautious," he said.

Consumer spending has also been weakening and

the usually busy festive season is expected to be softer. The Westpac-Melbourne Institute survey found nearly 40 per cent of respondents planned to spend less on gifts than last year.

Aussie shares hover above key marker

THE local sharemarket has again closed above a key resistance level, as traders await important inflation data out of the United States along with domestic wage price data.

The benchmark S&P/ASX200 index finished above 7000 on Tuesday, rising 57.9 points, or 0.83 per cent, to 7006.7. The broader All Ordinaries gained 62.1 points, or 0.87 per cent, to 7207.1.

Overnight the US Labour Department will report October consumer price index data that will likely be influ-

ential in deciding whether the Federal Reserve is done with its rate-hiking cycle. Domestically, the Australian Bureau of Statistics will release September quarterly wage price index data on Wednesday that will indicate how the minimum wage reviews from June affected the country's labour market.

Nine of the ASX's 11 sectors finished higher on Tuesday, with telecommunications and utilities lower. Energy was the biggest gainer, up 2.5 per cent as Brent crude prices ticked up

to a one-week high of \$US82 a barrel.

Woodside rose 2.6 per cent, Santos added 2.5 per cent and Beach Energy climbed 5.7 per cent as the oil and gas producer held its annual general meeting in Adelaide. "From an industry competitor perspective, we are peerless," interim chief executive officer Bruce Clement told shareholders. "I can't think of another company in Australia which has the near-term growth profile that we do."

In the financial sector,

CBA finished 1 per cent higher at \$102.28 as Australia's biggest bank reported it made a \$2.5 billion profit in the first quarter. NAB fell 3.2 per cent to \$27.97 as it traded ex-dividend, while ANZ gained 0.2 per cent to \$24.76 and Westpac rose 1 per cent to \$21.01. Elsewhere, Telstra dropped 2 per cent to \$3.87 as the telecommunications company held its investor day and announced five new routes to connect capital cities for its intercity fibre project.

CBA posts \$2.5b quarter

COMMONWEALTH Bank says it turned a \$2.5 billion profit in the September quarter, up 1 per cent from a year ago, while observing a modest increase in consumer arrears despite soaring interest rates. CBA said on Tuesday that just 0.49 per cent of its mortgage customers were 90 or more days behind on their payments, up "modestly" from 0.47 per cent from three months ago. Higher interest rates had impacted borrowers,

Australia's biggest bank said, but customers had been supported by a strong labour market. Overall consumer arrears remain at historically low levels, CBA said, echoing remarks from Australia's other three big retail banks from the last few days. The bank's unaudited \$2.5 billion in net profit after tax for the three months to September 30 was flat compared to its average for the second half of 2022/23, and up 1 per cent from a year ago.

MARKET WATCH

THE DOLLAR

	BUYING	SELLING
USD	0.657	0.617
GBP	0.537	0.502
EUR	0.616	0.576
JPY	99.81	93.49
NZD	1.111	1.052

COMMODITIES

	CURRENT	MOVE
Gold \$US/o	1945.89	+9.10
Oil	82.75	+1.10

TOP 10 BY VALUE

	TRADED	CLOSE
Origin Energy	374,749,992	8.50
ANZ Banking	291,636,985	24.76
BHP Group	278,531,383	46.02
CBA	205,804,075	102.28
Nat Aust Bank	203,828,509	27.97
Rio Tinto	163,665,323	122.49
Goodman Group	156,095,949	22.77
Fortescue Met	146,933,731	24.34
Westpac Bank	140,500,636	21.01
CSL	125,191,691	253.65

KEY STOCKS

	LAST	MOVE
AMP	1.01	+0.015
ANZ	24.76	+0.06
BHP Group	46.02	+0.62
CBA	102.28	+0.97
NAB	27.97	-0.93
News Corp	33.53	-0.59
Rio Tinto	122.49	+2.36
Telstra	3.87	-0.08
Westpac	21.01	+0.21
Woolworths	35.71	+1.15

WORLD MARKETS

	LAST	MOVE
S&P/ASX200	7006.7	+57.90
All Ords	7207.1	+62.10
Dow Jones	34,337.87	+54.77
NASDAQ	13,798.11	+276.66
S&P500	4415.24	+67.89
NIKKEI225	32,695.93	+110.82
NZSE 50	11,173.28	+80.25

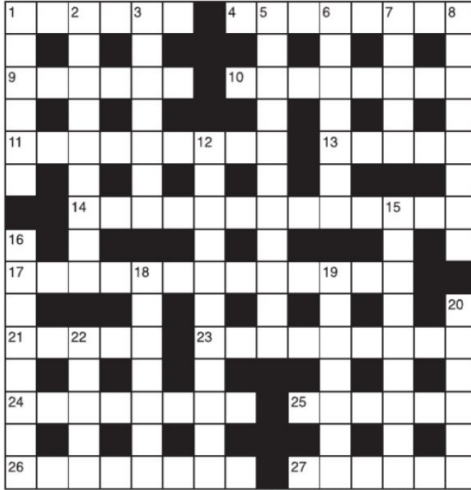
ENGLISH CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 30,585

ACROSS

- 1 Hostile takeover of banks in Peru triggers crash (6)
4 What doctors and train drivers are currently doing is eye-catching (8)
9 Places for putting vegetables like broccoli (6)
10 Character that shouldn't appear in race on big road (8)
11 Old Egyptian king, twice meeting Mr Heath, showed disapproval (3-6)
13 Confuse and lead astray inspiring Democrat (5)
14 Residence in area in Rochester due for refurbishment (8,5)
17 Two hurricanes destroyed plastic bathroom feature (6,7)
21 Model answer about fabulous Greek writer (5)
23 Deplores business managers ingesting speed (9)
24 Mingle in Milanese club, given cocktail (8)
25 Perhaps foil expert handler of stolen goods, right? (6)
26 Some constant run swigging creates angry outbursts (8)
27 Songs considered less catchy also lacking energy (1-5)

DOWN

- 1 Ruth traps girls heartlessly in filthy place (6)
2 This sounds like forty minutes past ten in the evening? (6-3)



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- 3 Kind of chestnut picked up for master (7)
5 Serious grilling is perhaps what a doctoral student wants (5,6)
6 Accuse a head that's supporting trouble-maker (7)
7 Epic poem I cover, penning article (5)
8 Understood what debtors are in, after raising a grand (8)
12 Belief of right-winger, playing this match without hesitation (11)

- 15 Continued fooling around without being seen (9)
16 Daydreamer in dunce's cap is thoughtless (8)
18 More stylised clothing for every ruler (7)
19 Stuffy husband leaves clean-shaven (7)
20 Apple assistant's following old, revered Egyptian (6)
22 Day wearing glossy fabric (5)

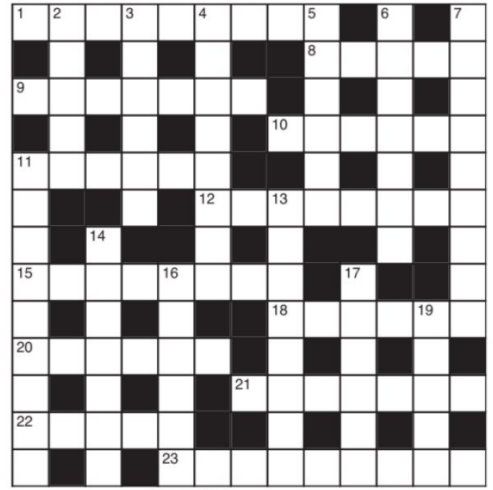
GEMINI CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 10,442

ACROSS

- 1 Accounts for all the members of the family (9)
8 Works and plays to music (5)
9 Put wrong interpretation on one's dream perhaps (7)
10 It's certainly not out of action (6)
11 Join me in the money (6)
12 I'm put to the test and made better (8)
15 Stock reactions to panic (8)
18 Mountain retreat needs freezer for fish (6)
20 We go in for duck (6)
21 Train one to interrupt (5,2)
22 Collect more pay (5)
23 It's rough and could be smoother (9)

DOWN

- 2 The very best from France (5)
3 One is prone to use this example of inflation (3,3)
4 I can't change. I've become lazy (8)
5 Rather earlier (6)
6 Take in but not in an accommodating way (7)
7 Blunt note about a job seeker (9)
11 This feature inspires angry comment (9)
13 Shaved in advance to be ready (8)
14 Innkeeper's profit is cheap at the price (7)



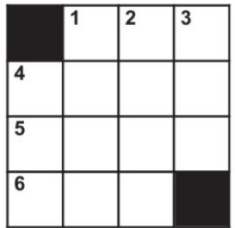
©Auspac Media

- 16 Examines surgical instruments (6)
17 Am having a nap going up country (6)
19 Number take cover from rebuke (5)

5X5 Insert the missing letters to make 10 words – five reading across the grid and five reading down.

C		U		H
	E		L	
E		T		R
	A		E	
S		A		E

TINY CROSS 1116



ACROSS

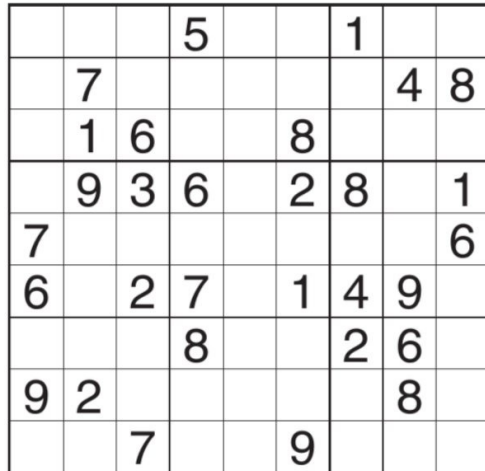
- 1 Data discs (abbr) (3)
4 Additional (4)
5 Leave out (4)
6 Chart (3)

DOWN

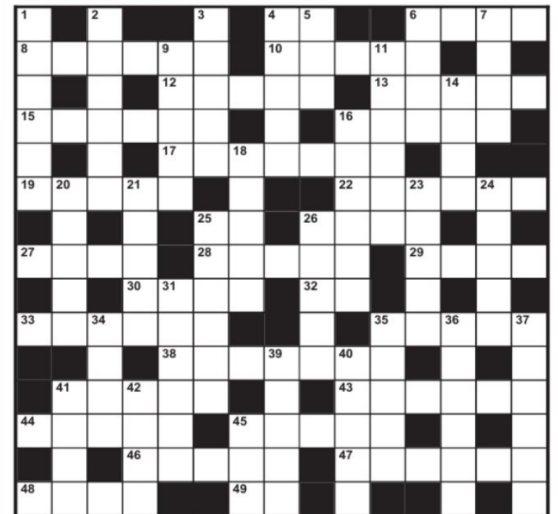
- 1 Unconscious (4)
2 Dribble (4)
3 Stage scenery (3)
4 American mother (3)

SUDOKU 123

You are given a 9x9 grid which has been divided up into nine 3x3 boxes. The aim of the game is very simple: to fill each row, column and 3x3 box with the numbers from 1 to 9 inclusive. Level of difficulty: Hard



QUICK CROSSWORD 291



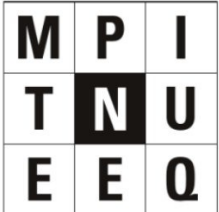
ACROSS

- 4 Us
6 Promise
8 Mould
10 'The King'
12 After dinner coffee?
13 Under-standable
15 Edible seed
16 Religious
17 Archetypal
19 Bird sound
22 Overcast weather
25 Frequency modulation (1,1)
26 Secondhand
27 US state
28 Reclined
29 Black
30 Bang
32 Near to
33 Late-night flight
35 March/April zodiac
38 Took over
41 Beginning
43 Go under-ground
44 Body of water
45 Backless seat
46 Estate
47 Canada's capital
48 Small island
49 Exclamation

DOWN

- 1 Talisman
2 Drop
3 Expand
4 Becomes frayed
5 Santa's helper
6 Norway's capital
7 Hot beverages
9 Proclamation
11 Frozen formation
14 European currency
16 Boar's abode
18 Carrying weapons
20 Composed
21 Related maternally
23 Smell
24 Noncommittal answer
25 Articulate
26 Open a package
31 Carnivorous mammal
34 Ridge of sand
35 Mature person
36 Progress
37 'Big deal!' (2,4)
39 Added
40 Electronic novel
41 Wood sorrels
42 Identical
45 G note

9-LETTER 033



Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural/verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET:

GOOD: 13 VERY GOOD: 17 EXCELLENT: 25+

Reference: Macquarie Dictionary.

WORDFIND Theme: Art

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- ACRYLIC BEAD BODY BRONZE CANVAS CEMENT CHALK CHARCOAL CLAY COLLAGE CONCRETE DANCE DIGITAL FABRIC FOOD

- GLASS GOUACHE INK LIGHT LINOCUT LITHOGRAPHY METAL MEZZOTINT MURAL OCHRE PAINT PAPER PASTEL PHOTO RESIN STONE STYLUS VIDEO WATERCOLOUR WEAVING WOOD WORD

CROSSMATHS 123

Insert each number from 1 to 9 in the shaded squares to solve all the horizontal and vertical equations.

Multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

	+		+		=	17
-		+		+		
	+		x		=	9
+		+		-		
	+		+		=	18
=		=		=		
10	11		0			

WEATHER

WOLLONGONG 23°C Partly cloudy.

THU 17/23°C FRI 14/19°C SAT 14/22°C SUN 16/24°C MON 17/25°C TUE 17/22°C

BATEMANS BAY 22°C Possible shower.

THU 12/21°C FRI 9/21°C SAT 9/25°C SUN 11/26°C MON 13/25°C TUE 12/23°C

CANBERRA 27°C Partly cloudy.

THU 9/26°C FRI 7/24°C SAT 7/27°C SUN 10/29°C MON 11/29°C TUE 11/25°C

REGIONAL OUTLOOK

WARNINGS were current at 5pm yesterday. www.bom.gov.au/australia/warnings 1300 659 210 (cost of a local call)

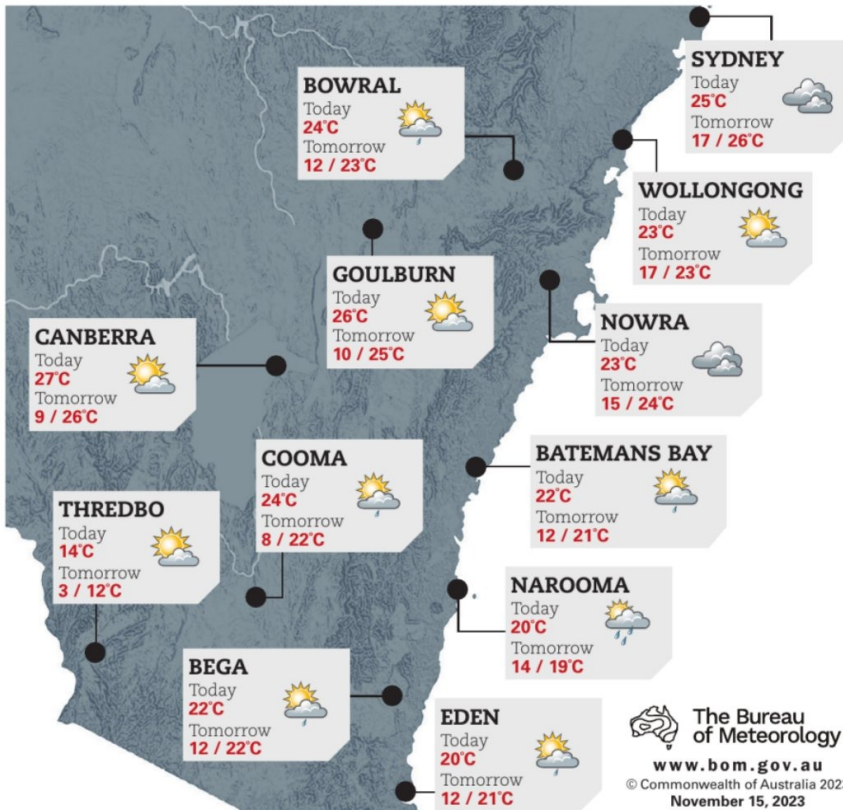
CANBERRA
Partly cloudy. Light winds becoming northwesterly 15 to 25 km/h in the early afternoon then becoming light in the late evening.

ILLAWARRA
Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower. The chance of a storm. Light winds becoming south to southeasterly 15 to 25 km/h in the middle of the day then tending east to southeasterly 15 to 20 km/h in the evening. Surf conditions may be more powerful than they appear.

SOUTH COAST
Cloudy. Medium chance of showers, most likely in the early morning. The chance of a storm in the north in the morning. Light winds. Surf conditions may be more powerful than they appear.

ILLAWARRA COASTAL WATERS
Port Hacking to Ulladulla
Winds: Northerly 10 to 20 knots tending south to southwesterly early in the morning then turning southeasterly in the early afternoon.
Seas: Around 1 metre. Swell: Southerly 1 to 1.5 metres, increasing to 1.5 to 2.5 metres during the morning. Weather: Partly cloudy. The chance of a storm north of Port Kembla in the early morning. Caution: Surf conditions may be more powerful than they appear.

BATEMANS COASTAL WATERS
Ulladulla to Montague Island
Winds: Southerly 10 to 20 knots turning south-easterly 10 to 15 knots during the afternoon.
Seas: Below 1 metre. Swell: Southerly 1.5 metres, increasing to 1.5 to 2 metres during the morning. Weather: Cloudy. 60% chance of showers. Caution: Surf conditions may be more powerful than they appear.



YESTERDAY

Location	**Max	Min	Rain*
Bega	20	7	0.0
Canberra	24	6	0.0
Cooma	17	2	0.0
Goulburn	27	5	0.0
Kiama	23	17	0.0
Merimbula	19	8	0.0
Moruya	21	10	0.0
Nowra	24	11	0.0
Thredbo	13	5	0.0
Tuggeranong	23	7	0.0
Ulladulla	21	14	0.0
Wollongong	23	17	0.0

THE TIDES

SYDNEY
High 10:06am 1.8m 10:43pm 1.3m
Low 3:32am 0.5m 4:46pm 0.3m

TOMORROW
High 10:49am 1.8m 11:33pm 1.3m
Low 4:14am 0.5m 5:35pm 0.3m

PORT KEMBLA
High 10:03am 1.8m 10:45pm 1.2m
Low 3:30am 0.5m 4:49pm 0.3m

TOMORROW
High 10:46am 1.8m 11:37pm 1.2m
Low 4:11am 0.5m 5:38pm 0.3m

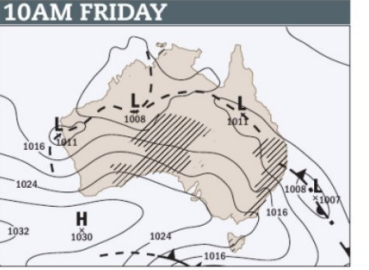
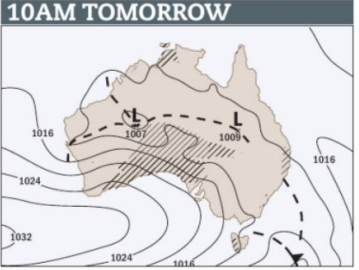
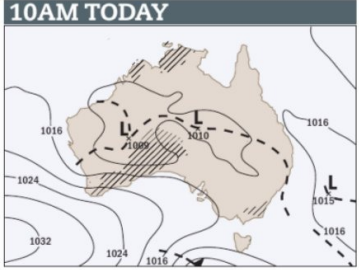
EDEN
High 10:02am 1.8m 10:57pm 1.3m
Low 3:30am 0.6m 4:54pm 0.3m

TOMORROW
High 10:45am 1.8m 11:49pm 1.3m
Low 4:12am 0.7m 5:43pm 0.3m

SUNSMART

CANBERRA
Sun protection recommended
8:50am to 4:40pm

WOLLONGONG
Sun protection recommended
8:50am - 4:30pm



THE WORLD

Location	Weather	High	Low
Amsterdam	rain	15	5
Athens	fine	24	14
Auckland	showers	20	14
Bangkok	storms	34	23
Barcelona	cloudy	21	16
Beijing	cloudy	9	-2
Christchurch	fine	17	9
Frankfurt	showers	13	9
Helsinki	cloudy	-1	-2
Hong Kong	sunny	25	20
Johannesburg	fine	24	12
Kuala Lumpur	storms	33	25
London	sunny	11	9
Los Angeles	rain	21	13
Moscow	rain	4	3
Noumea	fine	27	19
Paris	sunny	13	9
Port Vila	cloudy	28	22
Rio De Janeiro	rain	41	24
Rome	mist	20	11
Seoul	cloudy	13	2
Singapore	storms	34	24
Suva	rain	28	23
Tel Aviv	showers	23	19
Tokyo	cloudy	18	9
Vancouver	showers	7	3
Washington	sunny	13	1
Wellington	windy	19	13

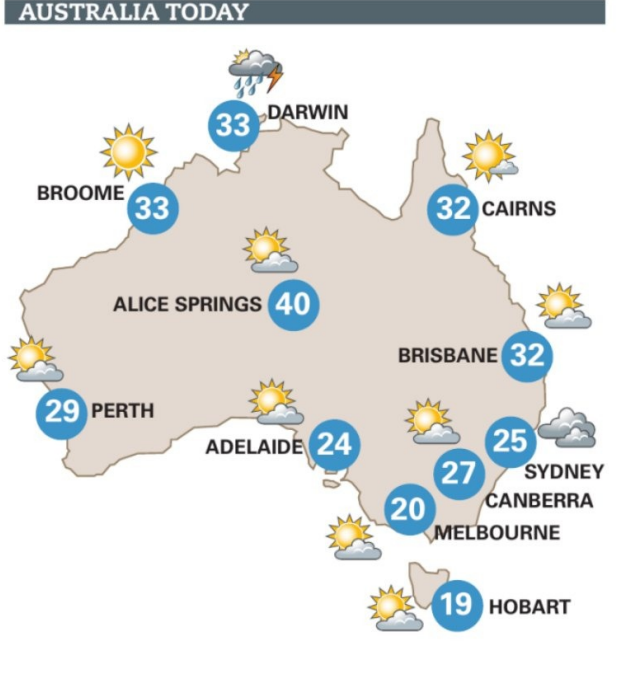
RAINFALL - LAST 7 DAYS

SUN & MOON

	SYDNEY	MELBOURNE	CANBERRA	HOBART
Rise	5:44am	6:00am	5:49am	5:38am
Set	7:36pm	8:09pm	7:47pm	8:12pm
Rise	6:36am	6:49am	6:40am	6:21am
Set	9:44pm	10:24pm	9:57pm	10:35pm

PHASES OF THE MOON

First	Full	Last	New
Nov 20	Nov 27	Dec 5	Dec 13



ABOUT TOWN

Photographer: Elesa Kurtz



Nicole and Tony Costanzo of Wagga.



Charlie, Kristy and Chris Vamvakaris of Mittagong.



Maryam Asgari of Sutton and Rachel Batkovic of Wallaroo.

Dare to be Rare

Win the Day charity has been developed to help alleviate the financial and emotional stress that families experience when they are already in chaos. Their annual fundraising event - the Dare to be Rare gala night - was on once again and raised more than \$400,000 for families in need.



Cassie Murphy of Bungendore and Jayde Jones of Carwoola.



Penny Mason of Casey and Nicola Robertson of Reid.



Bree Jones of Queanbeyan with Matt and Alex Jones of Calwell.

TRIVIA QUIZ

Compiled by Jean McLoughlin

- 1 In which year was singer Rod Stewart born?
- 2 How much does life weigh, according to a film starring Sean Penn and Naomi Watts?
- 3 Which Japanese watch advertised itself with the line 'It's your watch that tells most about who you are'?
- 4 How many albums have to be sold for a record to be certified platinum in Australia?
- 5 Which actor named his son Sage Moonblood?
- 6 In which state or territory would you find the city of Queanbeyan?
- 7 Who wrote *The Shining* and *It*?
- 8 What is the world's most popular spice?
- 9 Which two colours appear on the flag of Sweden?
- 10 What does the symbol known as an ampersand represent?

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

2	4	8	5	9	6	1	3	7
5	7	9	2	1	3	6	4	8
3	1	6	4	7	8	9	5	2
4	9	3	6	5	2	8	7	1
7	5	1	9	8	4	3	2	6
6	8	2	7	3	1	4	9	5
1	3	5	8	4	7	2	6	9
9	2	4	1	6	5	7	8	3
8	6	7	3	2	9	5	1	4

CROSSMATH

8	+	6	+	3	=	17
-	+	-	+	-	-	-
7	+	1	x	2	=	9
+	+	-	-	-	-	-
9	+	4	+	5	=	18
=	=	=	=	=	=	=
10		11		0		

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. 1945. 2. 21 grams. 3. Seiko.
4. 70,000. 5. Sylvester Stallone. 6. New South Wales.
7. Stephen King. 8. Pepper.
9. Blue and yellow. 10. And.

ENGLISH CRYPTIC

PUTSCH STRIKING
I W O H M L A
GREENS MISPRINT
S N O R E A H
TUTTUTTED ADDLE
Y Y E H D C R
TERRACEDHOUSE
E W T G N D
SHOWERCURTAIN
C M H E I O O
AESOP EXECRATES
P A E R L I I
INTERMIX FENCER
S I O S S E I
TANTRUMS BSIDES

QUICK CROSSWORD

A P S W E O A T H
M I L D E W E L V I S E
U U D E C A F C L E A R
L E N T I L R P I O U S
E G C L A S S I C R
T W E E T R G L O O M Y
R N F M U S E D A
I O W A L E A N T O N Y X
T T H U D B Y U B
R E D E Y E O A R I E S
U A N N E X E D N O
O N S E T X B U R R O W
O C E A N S T O O L O H
A M A N O R K O T T A W A
I S L E H A K O T T A W

GEMINI CRYPTIC

R E L A T I O N S D C
L I T N O P E R A
M I S R E A D O C N
T B C I N D E E D
C E M E N T E I I
R D I M P R O V E D
O B V R E A
S T A M P E D P T
S R R P L A I C E
W I G E O N A N H
O A B B R E A K I N
R A I S E E M D
D N S A N D P A P E R

5X5

CRUSH
HELLO
ENTER
FARES
SLATE

TINY CROSS

CDS
MORE
OMIT
MAP

WORDFIND

L I T H O G R A P H Y M C M
C R O O D C H A L D E E E
C O U A C H P A R T I Z
C O N C R E T E B A C Z
E R R O R E A D I S U O O
C E M I N I N G T O L T
R C M V I N G R O M L I
L U O A I O S D A N
L T O C O S T N N O R G T
O N D E A T A Z O A D A P
U G H I L O O S E C L A Y P
S N E A V I N G U I V S
V A C H A R C O A L T O P A T
D R A I N Y S S O C H R E
T G L A S S O F A B R I O N L

Secret message:
Creativity is contagious

HOROSCOPES

with ALISON MORONEY

www.alisonmoroney.com.au
astrologer@alisonmoroney.com

SCORPIO

(OCT 23-NOV 21)

Certain disappointments are likely to be experienced as you are out mixing with others during November 15-18, although discussions can be helpful.

AQUARIUS

(JAN 20-FEB 18)

If you want to contact someone overseas or interstate, then November 15-18 is an excellent time to do so, bringing delightful results.

TAURUS

(APR 20-MAY 20)

There appears to be good news or communication in connection with work or a health matter during November 15-18. These trends will prove helpful.

LEO

(JUL 23-AUG 22)

November 15-18 is ideal for discussions, negotiations, travelling and financial matters. You can boost your profile and success rating then through planning.

SAGITTARIUS

(NOV 22-DEC 21)

November 15-18 is likely to be filled with wonderful social occasions, promoting good feelings, friendships, and a sense of achievement. A step up the career ladder awaits.

PISCES

(FEB 19-MAR 20)

The accent of discussions will be on responsibilities and financial matters during November 15-18, particularly involving a partnership, or domestic or property matter.

GEMINI

(MAY 21-JUN 20)

November 15-18 is a wonderful time for just about any social occasion, especially where family is involved. Good news concerning a child or romance features.

VIRGO

(AUG 23-SEP 22)

Business, personal and financial activities dominate November 15-18, which is an excellent time for planning and discussions. It is easier to complete sales then.

CAPRICORN

(DEC 22-JAN 19)

A number of possibilities for success abound during November 15-18. Children, romance and travel opportunities all shine under current stellar trends.

ARIES

(MAR 21-APR 19)

Pleasant and successful personal or business communications will feature during November 15-18, enriching marriages and making partnerships profitable.

CANCER

(JUN 21-JUL 22)

Pleasant plans or communications dominate November 15-18, particularly in connection with the home or property. This is a great time for buying property.

LIBRA

(SEP 23-OCT 22)

There is a wonderful exchange of ideas during November 15-18, which allows you to deal effectively with difficulties while promoting your own wellbeing.



TV GUIDE

WEDNESDAY, November 15

ABC TV (CH 2, 20)	SBS (CH 3, 30)	SEVEN (CH 6)	NINE (CH 8, 80)	TEN (CH 5)
6.00 News Breakfast. 9.00 ABC News Mornings. 10.00 Rick Stein's Secret France. (R) 10.55 Q+A. (R) 12.00 ABC News At Noon. 12.30 National Press Club Address. 1.40 Media Watch. (PG, R) 2.00 Parliament Question Time. 3.10 Gardening Australia. (R) 4.10 All Creatures Great And Small. (PG, R) 4.55 Back Roads. Presented by Heather Ewart. (R) 5.25 Hard Quiz. Presented by Tom Gleeson. (PG, R)	6.00 WorldWatch. 7.30 France 24 English News. 8.00 DD India Prime Time News. 9.00 Home Is Where The Art Is. 9.55 Victorian House Of Arts And Crafts. 11.05 Great Canal Journeys. (PGa) 12.00 BBC News At Ten. 12.30 ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. 1.00 PBS NewsHour. 2.00 Legends Of The Pharaohs. (Masv) 3.10 Mastermind Australia. (R) 3.40 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw. (PG, R) 4.15 Secret Scotland. (R) 5.05 Jeopardy! (R) 5.30 Letters And Numbers. (R)	6.00 Sunrise. 9.00 The Morning Show. (PG) 11.30 Seven Morning News. 12.00 MOVIE Student Seduction. Cameron Cipolla. A student joins an academic cheating ring. (2022, Mav) 2.00 Autopsy USA: Luther Vandross. A look at the death of Luther Vandross. (Ma, R) 3.00 The Chase. Hosted by Bradley Walsh. 4.00 Seven News At 4. 5.00 The Chase Australia. Hosted by Larry Emdur.	6.00 Today. 9.00 Today Extra. (PG) 11.30 Morning News. 12.00 My Mum Your Dad. Hosted by Kate Langbrook. (PGIs, R) 1.30 My Way. Hosted by Tim Blackwell. (R) 2.00 Pointless. Presented by Alexander Armstrong. (PG, R) 3.00 Tipping Point. Hosted by Ben Shephard. (PG, R) 4.00 Afternoon News. 4.30 Millionaire Hot Seat. Hosted by Eddie McGuire. 5.30 WIN News.	6.00 The Talk. (PGa) 7.00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield. 7.30 Entertainment Tonight. 8.00 Farm To Fork. 8.30 Judge Judy. (PG) 9.00 The Bold And The Beautiful. (PGa) 9.30 Neighbours. (PGa) 10.00 Studio 10. (PG) 12.00 10 News First: Midday. 1.00 Dr Phil. (Mad, R) 2.00 To Be Advised. 3.10 Entertainment Tonight. 3.30 Farm To Fork. 4.00 Neighbours. (PGa) 4.30 The Bold And The Beautiful. (PGa) 5.00 10 News First.
6.00 The Drum. 7.00 ABC News. 7.30 7.30. Presented by Sarah Ferguson. 8.00 Hard Quiz. Hosted by Tom Gleeson. (PG, R) 8.30 Question Everything. Presented by Wil Anderson and Jan Fran. 9.00 Australian Epic: Princess Mary. Recounts the story Mary Donaldson. (PG) 9.30 Planet America. A look at the current US political climate. 10.05 QI. (Mis, R) 10.35 Adam Hills: The Last Leg. (R) 11.15 ABC Late News. 11.30 The Business. (R) 11.45 The Line Of Beauty. (Mid, R) 12.45 Parliament Question Time. 1.45 The Trial Of Christine Keeler. (Mals, R) 2.45 Rage. (MA15+adhlinsv) 4.00 Barrie Cassidy's One Plus One. (R) 4.30 The Drum. (R) 5.30 7.30. (R)	6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R) 6.30 SBS World News. 7.30 Meet The Neighbours. Part 3 of 3. (PG) 8.30 Alone UK. Finding food becomes crucial as extreme hunger kicks in for the participants. (Mal) 9.30 Boeing's Fatal Flaw. An investigation into Boeing's flawed 737 MAX airliner and the crashes that killed 346 people. (PGa, R) 10.30 SBS World News Late. 11.00 Miniseries: The Night Logan Woke Up. Part 5 of 5. (MA15+rd) 12.10 The Investigation. (Ma, R) 1.55 Before We Die. (Malv, R) 3.45 Going Places With Ernie Dingo. (PG, R) 4.45 Bamay: Larrakia And Wulwulum Country. (R) 5.00 NHK World English News Morning. 5.30 ANC Philippines The World Tonight.	6.00 Seven News. 7.00 Home And Away. Dana goes in to bat for John. Alf is in over his head. Eviction hits hard for Felicity's heart. (PG) 7.30 A Year On Planet Earth: Compilation. A look at the strategies animals like red squirrels, pikas and penguins use to cope with their changing worlds. (PGa) 8.30 Big Brother. It is day nine in the <i>Big Brother</i> house, and there is one question on everyone's lips. (Main) 11.00 The Latest: Seven News. 11.30 The Amazing Race. Relationships are tested as teams take on their first self-drive leg in Germany. (PGI) 1.00 Parenthood. Follows the lives of four adult siblings. (Mds, R) 2.00 Home Shopping. (R) 4.00 NBC Today. News and current affairs. 5.00 Seven Early News. 5.30 Sunrise.	6.00 Nine News. 7.00 A Current Affair. 7.30 ARIA Awards. Coverage of the Australian music industry's major awards ceremony hosted by Brooke Boney and Tommy Little. (MI) 9.30 Ed Sheeran: Full Circle. Follows Ed Sheeran and his team as they prepare for the largest shows of the current <i>Mathematics</i> tour. (PGI, R) 10.30 The Equalizer. McCall must revisit the past. (Mav) 11.30 La Brea. Eve tries to save Josh's life. (Mv, R) 12.25 Tipping Point. Hosted by Ben Shephard. (PG, R) 1.20 Pointless. (PG, R) 2.15 9 Honey Hacks. (R) 2.30 Global Shop. (R) 3.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R) 4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) 4.30 A Current Affair. (R) 5.00 News Early Edition. 5.30 Today.	6.30 The Project. The hosts and guest panellists take a look at the day's news, events and hot topics. 7.30 Dessert Masters. The contestants are split into three teams of three for a challenging team relay. (PGI) 8.40 My Life Is Murder. Series return. Alexa Crowe finds herself in danger when she investigates the death of a tango club's young teacher. (Mav) 10.40 To Be Advised. 11.40 The Project. The hosts and guest panellists take a look at the day's news, events and hot topics. (R) 12.40 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. Stephen Colbert interviews a variety of guests from the worlds of film, politics, business and music. (PG) 1.30 Home Shopping. (R) 4.30 CBS Mornings. Morning news and talk show.
ABC TV PLUS (CH 22)	SBS VICELAND (CH 31)	7TWO (CH 62)	9GO! (CH 82)	10 PEACH (CH 52)
6.00 Children's Programs. 12.10 Moon And Me. 12.40 Twirlywoos. 1.15 Mister Maker. 12.40 The World. 1.55 Hoopla. 2.20 Grace's Amazing Machines. 2.55 Mecha Builders. 3.15 PJ Masks. 3.30 Play School. 4.00 Gardening Australia Junior. 4.35 Go Jetters. 5.05 Piffirates. 5.30 Kiya And The Kimoja Heroes. 5.55 Peter Rabbit. 6.30 Andy And The Band. 7.05 Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures. 7.30 Spicks And Specks. (PG) 8.00 Would I Lie To You? (PG) 8.30 Doc Martin. (PG) 9.20 Bay Of Fires. (MA15+) 10.15 Killing Eve. (M) 11.00 Would I Lie To You? (PG) 11.30 Louis Theroux: Altered States. (M) 12.35 Civilisations. (M) 1.35 Whose Line Is It Anyway? (M) 2.05 Close. 5.00 Children's Programs.	6.00 WorldWatch. 10.00 Shortland St. (PG) 12.00 How To Rob A Bank. (M) 2.30 States Of Undress. (PG) 3.20 WorldWatch. 4.20 PBS NewsHour. 5.20 Shortland Street. (PG) 5.50 The Curse Of Oak Island. (PG) 6.40 Jeopardy! 7.30 NITV News Update. 7.35 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. (M) 8.30 Celebrity Letters And Numbers. Hosted by Michael Hing. (PG) 9.30 MOVIE Subject. (2022, M) 11.20 MOVIE Detective Chinatown 2. Wang Baoqiang. (2018, Malv) 1.30 Romulus. (MA15+) 4.35 NHK World English News. 5.00 Al Jazeera.	6.00 Home Shopping. 7.00 Step Outside. (PG) 7.30 Creek To Coast. 8.00 A Football Life. (PG) 9.00 America's Game. 10.00 American Pickers. (PG) 11.00 Pawn Stars. (PG) 12.00 Outback Truckers. (PG) 2.00 Truck Night In America. (PG) 3.00 Billy The Exterminator. (PG) 3.30 Aussie Lobster Men. (PG) 4.30 Storage Wars. (PG) 5.00 American Restoration. (PG) 5.30 American Pickers. (PG) 6.30 Pawn Stars. (PG) 7.30 Highway Patrol. (PG) 8.30 The Force: Behind The Line. (PG) 9.30 Busted In Bangkok. (M) 10.30 Surveillance Oz: Dashcam. (PG) 11.30 Crash Investigation Unit. (PG) 12.00 Esports. LPL Pro. CCT Oceania Counter-Strike: Global Offensive. Season 1. 2.00 Shopping.	6.00 Children's Programs. 12.00 Medium. (M) 1.00 Bewitched. 1.30 Raymond. (PG) 2.30 Full House. 3.00 MacGyver. (PG) 4.00 Family Ties. (PG) 4.30 The Addams Family. 5.00 Bewitched. 5.30 I Dream Of Jeannie. 6.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (PG) 7.00 Young Sheldon. (PG) 7.30 Seinfeld. (PG) 8.30 Love Island Australia. (M) 9.40 MOVIE Bad Neighbours. Seth Rogen. (2014, MA15+dlins, CC) 11.40 Seinfeld. (PG) 12.40 Young Sheldon. (PG) 1.05 Life After Lockup. (M) 2.00 I Dream Of Jeannie. 2.30 Full House. 3.00 Bakugan: Geogan Rising. (PG) 3.30 Ninjago. (PG) 4.00 Ricky Zoom. 4.30 TV Shop. 5.00 Pokémon. (PG) 5.30 Yu-Gi-Oh! Sevens. (PG)	6.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG) 7.00 Becker. (PG) 8.00 Seinfeld. (PG) 9.00 Friends. (PG) 10.00 The King Of Queens. (PG) 11.00 Frasier. (PG) 12.00 Becker. (PG) 1.00 NFL Slam. 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (PG) 2.00 Seinfeld. (PG) 3.00 The King Of Queens. (PG) 4.00 Becker. (PG) 5.00 Frasier. (PG) 6.00 Friends. (PG) 6.30 Neighbours. (PG) 7.00 Friends. (PG) 8.00 The Big Bang Theory. (PG) 9.20 Two And A Half Men. Lyndsey decides to punish Alan. (M) 10.10 Seinfeld. (PG) 11.10 Frasier. (PG) 12.00 Shopping. 1.30 Stephen Colbert. (PG) 2.30 King Of Queens. (PG) 3.30 Workaholics. (MA15+) 4.30 Shopping.
ABC ME (CH 23)	SBS WORLD MOVIES (CH 32)	7MATE (CH 64)	9GEM (CH 81)	10 BOLD (CH 53)
6.00 Children's Programs. 10.20 Where In The World? 10.40 Back In Time For Dinner. 11.20 Kids Of Courage. (PG) 12.00 Odd Squad. 12.20 How To Do Stuff Good. 12.40 Malory Towers. 1.05 Merlin. (PG) 1.55 Horrible Histories. 3.25 The Penguins Of Madagascar. (PG) 4.20 Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs. (PG) 4.40 The Investigators. 4.55 Kung Fu Panda. (PG) 5.20 Miraculous. (PG) 5.45 Hotel Transylvania. 6.00 Turn Up The Volume. 6.30 Operation Ouch! 6.45 Merlin. (PG) 7.35 The Fairly OddParents. 8.20 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (PG) 8.55 School Of Rock. 9.20 A Kind Of Spark. (PG) 9.50 Rage. (PG) 11.15 Close.	6.00 Corpo Celeste. Continued. (2011, Italian, PGa) 6.50 The Crossing. (2020, Norwegian, PGa) 8.40 About Elly. Golshifteh Farahani. (2009, Persian, PGa) 10.50 Sunset. Juli Jakab. (2018, Hungarian, Mav) 1.30 The Life And Death Of Colonel Blimp. Roger Livesey. (1943, PG) 4.30 The 400 Blows. Jean-Pierre Léaud. (1959, French, PG) 6.25 Frantz. Paula Beer. (2016, French, PGa) 8.30 Churchill. Brian Cox, Miranda Richardson. (2017, Ma) 10.30 A Dangerous Method. Michael Fassbender. (2011, MA15+as) 12.20 Sound Of Metal. (2019, Mals) 2.35 Waiting For Anya. (2020, Mv) 4.35 The Movie Show. (M) 5.10 Magnetic Fields. (2021, Greek, PGa)	6.00 Shopping. 7.00 Step Outside. (PG) 7.30 Creek To Coast. 8.00 A Football Life. (PG) 9.00 America's Game. 10.00 American Pickers. (PG) 11.00 Pawn Stars. (PG) 12.00 Outback Truckers. (PG) 2.00 Truck Night In America. (PG) 3.00 Billy The Exterminator. (PG) 3.30 Aussie Lobster Men. (PG) 4.30 Storage Wars. (PG) 5.00 American Restoration. (PG) 5.30 American Pickers. (PG) 6.30 Pawn Stars. (PG) 7.30 Highway Patrol. (PG) 8.30 The Force: Behind The Line. (PG) 9.30 Busted In Bangkok. (M) 10.30 Surveillance Oz: Dashcam. (PG) 11.30 Crash Investigation Unit. (PG) 12.00 Esports. LPL Pro. CCT Oceania Counter-Strike: Global Offensive. Season 1. 2.00 Shopping.	6.00 Danger Man. (PG) 7.00 Creflo. (PG) 7.30 Skippy. 8.00 TV Shop. 10.30 Pointless. (PG) 11.30 My Favorite Martian. 12.00 Days Of Our Lives. (M) 12.55 The Young And The Restless. (PG) 1.50 Garden Gurus Moments. 2.00 Dr Quinn. (PG) 3.00 Antiques Roadshow. 3.30 MOVIE Wherever She Goes. (1951) 5.00 Yorkshire Auction House. 6.00 Antiques Roadshow. 7.00 ICC World Cup: Pre-Game. 7.30 Cricket. ICC World Cup. First semi-final. India v New Zealand. First Innings. From Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai, India. 11.00 Innings Break. 11.30 Cricket. ICC World Cup. First semi-final. India v New Zealand. Second Innings. 3.30 Late Programs.	6.00 Home Shopping. 8.00 Healthy Homes Australia. 8.30 Diagnosis Murder. (PG) 9.30 Jake And The Fatman. (PG) 10.30 JAG. (PG) 12.30 NCIS. (M) 1.30 NCIS: Los Angeles. (M) 2.30 Jake And The Fatman. (PG) 3.30 Diagnosis Murder. (PG) 5.30 JAG. (PG) 7.30 Bull. The team is forced to adjust to the new normal. (PG) 8.30 NCIS. Gibbs tries to help a medical specialist. (M) 9.30 Hawaii Five-0. An FBI agent is killed. (M) 10.30 Socceros Magazine Show. (M) 11.00 Evil. (M) 12.00 Diagnosis Murder. (M) 1.00 Home Shopping. 2.00 Diagnosis Murder. (PG) 4.00 JAG. (PG)
ABC NEWS (CH 24)	SBS FOOD (CH 33)	7BRAVO (CH 65)	9LIFE (CH 83)	NITV (CH 34)
6.00 News Breakfast. 9.00 ABC News Mornings. 12.00 ABC News At Noon. 12.30 National Press Club Address. 1.35 ABC News Day. 2.00 Parliament Question Time. 3.10 ABC News Afternoons. 4.00 Afternoon Briefing. 5.00 ABC News With Joe O'Brien. 6.00 ABC Evening News. 7.00 ABC National News. 7.30 7.30. 8.00 ABC News Tonight. 8.45 The Business. 9.00 ABC Nightly News. 9.30 Australian Story. 10.00 The World. 11.00 News. 11.30 The Drum. 12.30 News Overnight. 1.00 News. 1.15 The Business. 1.30 7.30. 2.00 DW News. 2.30 News Overnight. 3.00 DW News. 3.30 The World. 4.30 7.30. 5.00 DW News. 5.15 The Business. 5.30 That Pacific Sports Show.	6.00 Morning Programs. 9.30 Freshly Picked. (PG) 10.00 Food Safari. 10.30 Lidia's Kitchen. (PG) 11.00 The Cook Up. (PG) 11.30 Hidden Italy. (PG) 12.00 Planet BBQ. (PG) 12.30 Project Fire. (PG) 1.00 All Up In My Grill. (PG) 1.30 The Chocolate Queen. 2.00 Barefoot Contessa. 2.30 Big Appetite. 3.00 The Italian Vegan Chef. 3.30 Choccywoccy. 4.00 Dolce India. 4.30 No Reservations. (PG) 5.30 Freshly Picked. (PG) 6.00 Food Safari. 6.30 Lidia's Kitchen. (PG) 7.00 The Cook Up. 7.30 Fruits Of The Sea. 8.00 The Chocolate Queen. 8.30 James Martin's Spanish Adventures. 9.30 Dine With Me UK. (PG) 10.30 The Cook Up. 11.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Shark Tank. (PG) 7.00 Undercover Boss. (PG) 8.00 Million Dollar Listing NY. (PG) 9.00 Top Chef. (PG) 10.00 Shark Tank. (PG) 11.00 Undercover Boss. (PG) 12.00 Snapped. (M) 1.00 Housewives Of Beverly Hills. (M) 2.00 Shark Tank. (PG) 3.00 Judge Jerry. (PG) 3.30 Jimmy Fallon. (PG) 4.30 Million Dollar Listing NY. (PG) 5.30 Undercover Boss. (PG) 6.30 Shark Tank. (PG) 7.30 Botched. (M) 8.30 Below Deck Mediterranean. (M) 9.30 Vanderpump Rules. (M) 10.30 Snapped. (M) 11.30 The Real Housewives Of Orange County. (M) 12.30 Botched. (M) 1.30 Below Deck Mediterranean. (M) 2.30 Vanderpump Rules. (M) 3.30 Snapped. (M) 4.30 Late Programs.	6.00 House Hunters Int. 6.30 House Hunters. 7.00 Restoration Man. (PG) 8.00 Garden Gurus. 8.30 The Block. (PG) 9.30 House Hunters Int. 10.30 House Hunters. 11.00 Hot Properties: San Diego. 11.30 Yard Crashers. (PG) 12.00 Restoration Man. (PG) 2.00 Escape To The Chateau. 3.00 The Block. (PG) 4.00 Hot Properties: San Diego. 4.30 Yard Crashers. (PG) 5.00 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. 6.00 House Hunters International. 7.00 House Hunters. 7.30 Home Town. 8.30 Good Bones. (PG) 9.30 Fixer To Fabulous. (PG) 10.30 Self Made Mansions. 11.30 House Hunters Int. 12.30 House Hunters. 1.00 Home Town. 2.00 Late Programs.	6.00 Morning Programs. 8.40 Crazy Smart Science. 9.05 The Magic Canoe. 9.30 Toi Time. 10.00 Kenya Wildlife Diaries. (PG) 10.50 Kutcha's Carpool Koorioke. (PG) 11.00 The Casketeers. (PG) 12.00 Faboriginal. 12.30 Going Places. (PG) 2.30 The Cook Up. (PG) 3.00 Motown Magic. 3.25 Aussie Bush Tales. 3.40 Fresh Fairytales. (PG) 4.00 Crazy Smart Science. 4.30 Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea. (PG) 5.00 Our Stories. (PG) 5.30 Te Ao With Moana. 6.00 Bamay. 6.40 News. 6.50 Volcanic Odysseys. (PG) 7.40 BLK: An Origin Story. (PG) 8.30 MOVIE Coextinction. (2021, PG) 10.10 Persons Of Interest. (PG) 11.10 Late Programs.
7FLIX (CH 66)	6.00 It's Academic. 7.00 Oh Yuck. 8.00 Flushed. 9.00 Home Shopping. 10.30 Zumbo's Just Desserts. (PG) 11.30 Travel And Eat With Dan & Steph. (PG) 12.00 Smash. (M) 1.00 Chicago Fire. (M) 2.00 Black-ish. (PG) 3.30 Modern Family. (PG) 5.30 Bondi Vet. (PG) 6.30 First Dates Australia. (PG) 7.35 First Dates UK. (M) 8.40 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (M) 10.40 Ramsay's Kitchen USA. (M) 12.40 First Dates Australia. (PG) 1.40 First Dates UK. (M) 2.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (M) 4.30 Fresh TV. 5.00 S.W.A.T. (M)			

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Self Service

Death Notices

TERRENCE JOSPEH COLLINS
'Terry'

28 November 1941 - 8 November 2023

Loving father of Gary, Michael,
Frances and Jessamy.
Adored grandfather and
loved great-grandfather.
Treasured brother, uncle and
friend to many.

The funeral service for Terry will be held at
St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church,
108 Sternberg Crescent, Wanniasia ACT,
on **Friday 17 November 2023**
commencing at **11:00 AM**.

Burial to follow at the
Woden Cemetery,
Justinian Place, Phillip ACT.

For those unable to attend, please
find the link to the livestream on the
Tobin Brothers Canberra Funerals website:
www.tobinbrotherscanberrafunerals.com.au



Tobin Brothers

TUGGERANONG 02 6293 3177

GAIL PATRICIA FLEGG

Departed Sunday, 12 November 2023,
after a short illness.

Dearly loved wife of Stephen.
Cherished mother of Carolyn and Kristopher
and loving mother-in-law of Sandra and Johnny.
Adoring grandmother of Henry, Sam,
Austin, Audrey, and Niamh.

*A wonderful human being and friend to all,
she will be sorely missed by many.*

The funeral service for Gail will be held in
the Chapel of Norwood Park Crematorium,
Sandford Street Mitchell, on Friday,
17 November 2023, commencing at 9am.

To honour Gail's memory, the family would
appreciate if pearl earrings could be worn.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS

Canberra - 6253 3655

BERNARD TERANCE BASTION
PULLE

6 October 1932 - 9 November 2023

Beloved husband of Amara.
Loving father of Elizabeth (dec), Ramesh and
Pooja.

Much loved grandfather to Francesca,
Shamaya, Shanella, Tamishka, and Yannick
Loving brother of Leena, Florence, Anton (dec)
and Gerard (dec).

Forever in our hearts

A requiem mass for the repose of Bernard's
soul will be offered at Holy Spirit Catholic
Church, Burdekin Ave, Amaro, on
SATURDAY, 18 November 2023, commencing
at 1:30pm.

Burial at Gungahlin cemetery to follow.



(02) 6241 4101

Death Notices

RONALD (RON) MOORE
3 January 1930 - 10 November 2023

Passed peacefully at North Canberra Hospital.

A truly gentle man and dearest husband
of Helen for 65 years.

Kind and caring father of Ralph and Steven
and father-in-law of Danielle.
Beloved brother of Margaret (dec),
Winifred (dec), Maxwell (dec), Lorna (dec),
Wylma, and John (dec).

Much respected Uncle and friend of many.

*Will be fondly remembered by family
and all those who knew him.*



The funeral service for Ron will be held in the
Chapel of Norwood Park Crematorium,
Sandford Street, Mitchell on Tuesday,
21 November 2023, commencing at 10:30am.



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS

Canberra - 6253 3655



Nina Valeri

31 May 1930 - 2 November 2023

Passed away peacefully,
surrounded by her loving family
at The Canberra Hospital.

Beloved wife of Cesare (dec).
Much loved and sadly missed by
Mauro, Walter, Katia, her grandchildren,
and great-grandchildren.

*A special smile, a special face.
A special Mum, we can never replace.*

Relatives and friends are invited to attend
Requiem Mass to be offered for Nina at
the Holy Family Church Gowrie,
167 Bugden Avenue Gowrie on **Friday**
24 November 2023 commencing at 1pm.

Burial will follow at the Woden Cemetery.

No flowers by request, instead please
donate to a charity of choice.

A Livestream will be available at
www.toscandinn.com.au

Toscan & Dinn
FUNERALSLindard Street, Weston
Phone 6287 3466
Leaders in Care and ServiceSENKA VIDOVIC
26 May 1947 - 2 November 2023

Devoted Wife of Nedjeljko.
Mother of Robert, Mary and Kathleen.
Grandmother of ten.

Rosary will be recited at
St Raphael's Catholic Church,
Lowe Street Queanbeyan, NSW on Monday,
20 November 2023, commencing at 10:00am

Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of
Senka will follow, commencing 10:30 am.

Burial to follow at Queanbeyan Cemetery.

'NEK POCIVA U MIRU BOZJEM'



WILLIAM COLE FUNERALS

Canberra - 6253 3655

Death Notices

JANET CHRISTINE WISE
25 July 1941 to 9 November 2023

Sister, Teacher, Friend.

Her friends advise that Jan passed away
after seven years of loving care
at Warrigal, Stirling.

Please join us as we celebrate her life
at the White Lady Chapel,
101 Nettlefold Street, Belconnen ACT
on **Thursday 16 November 2023**
commencing at 1:00pm.

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Deaths & Funerals

FRANJO 'FRANK' KOZIC
24 March 1945 - 09 November 2023

Born in Gornja Drenova, Zagreb Croatia.
Aged 78 years.

Beloved husband to Ika 'Ivanka' Kozic (dec).
Passed away peacefully surrounded by
adored daughter Mercedes (Sandra),
son-in-law Karlo Rehak and Kumovi Lino,
Kata Pavletic and Venessa Mathews.

Tata, I'll hold you in my heart until I can
hold you in heaven. There is a place in
my heart, that is yours alone, a part of
my life that no one else can own.

Tata, ti si ljubav mog života. Za sve ti
puno hvala. Videmo se opet.

POČIVA U MIRU BOŽJEM

Rosary for Frank's soul will be held in
St Raphael's Catholic Church,
Lowe Street, Queanbeyan NSW,
on **WEDNESDAY 22 November 2023**,
commencing at 10:00am.

Requiem mass to celebrate Frank's life
will commence at 10:30am.

Burial will follow at Queanbeyan Cemetery,
Lanyon Drive, Jerrabomberra NSW.



Tobin Brothers

KINGSTON 02 6295 2799

RMS406118

ZWANGOBANI
Elaine Mary

16 December 1941 ~ 8 November 2023

In loving memory of Elaine Zwangobani.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce
the passing of Elaine Zwangobani on
8 November 2023.

Born in Barcardine, Queensland to
Fred and Eileen Barrell, she is survived by
her two brothers Trevor and Kevin.

Elaine was an amazing woman,
who led a remarkable life.
She was a staunch advocate for
public education and social justice,
and an intrepid traveller.

Elaine was also famous for her collection of
cultural artefacts, immaculate dress
and spontaneous dancing.

Her sharp mind, dry sense of humour
and enduring love for her family will
forever be remembered and cherished.

Elaine's legacy lives on through her
six children - Carl, Shane, Paul, Sara,
Kirk and Elliott; twelve grandchildren - Brittany,
Ione, Soleil, Candice, Kurt, Arantxa, Makhosi,
Cadel, Ruby, Malaika, Arwyn, and Moimir;
and two great-grandchildren - Indiana and Jakobi.

She will always be in our hearts and minds.

A memorial service for Elaine will be held in
The Chapel at Gold Creek, 17 O'Hanlan Place,
Nicholls on Friday 17 November 2023
commencing at 10am.

In Memoriam

Joseph Douglas House (Williams)
1 January 1962 - 15 November 2017

Today marks 6 years since we lost our
Ngunnawal Warrior.

Those we love don't go away.
They walk beside us every day.
Your Life was a Blessing,
Your Memory a Treasure
You are Loved Beyond Words,
And Missed Beyond Measure.
Forever in Our Hearts.

Keep Flying High Our Eagle

Antoinette, Tiana, Kristal, Rachael,
Jerome, Azante, Jarvis.

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3	SPYRIE (5)	T Schiller 58 83	5.50
4	STORM BOY (2)	C Clark 58 100	1.75
5	TENSILE (8)	Zac Lloyd (a) 58 92	16.00
6	VINIRIO (1)	C Schofield 58 90	3.00
7	CANARA (4)	J Mc Donald 56 84	85.00
8	WANDAYE (3)	R Jones 56 80	26.00

STORM BOY, Spyrie, Vinrio, Canara

2	2.35	Precise Air Super	1400m
No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price		
1	252 DOLZINO (7)	T Sherry 59 88	8.50
2	DUKE OF LANCASTER (8)	Zac Lloyd (a) 58.5 80	19.00
3	SO OUTRAGEOUS (5)	J Parr 58.2 72	61.00
4	4443 VANQUISHED (4)	B Prebble 59 100	12.50
5	5552 REGGIE FIRE (9)	T Schiller 57 87	17.00
6	1 AM SMILING (h)	K Mc Evoy 56.5 67	61.00
7	3 SENSORY (h)	J Mc Donald 56.4 84	3.80
8	VIVEZZA (6)	C Schofield 56.5 73	19.00
9	3 WAIKATO GIRL (5)	J Collett 56.5 87	4.60

VANQUISHED, Sensory, Duke of Lancaster, Reggie Fire

3	3.10	Rosehill Bowling Club	1200m
No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price		
1	2222 THE KING (d w)	J Collett 58 90	3.00
2	31352 FLEETWOOD (w)	Sch 60 93	10.00
3	2195 ZOURPRINCE (d)	R Jones 59.5 87	9.00
4	34381 RUNWITHTHEDE (2)	B Ryan 58.5 90	5.00
5	5251 DYNAMIC ONE (d w)	T Schiller 56 81	81.00
6	1 VANKOE (w)	J Collett 55.5 85	3.40
7	6537 ARMED FORCE (h)	K Mc Evoy 58 100	3.50
8	56575 TURBULENT (8)	Scratched	55

FLEETWOOD, Zourprince, Runwiththe, Yankee One

4	3.45	Ghaiyyath First Yearlings	1500m
No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price		
1	10549 GALAXY BELLE (w)	A Mc Lucas (a) 60.5 95	15.00
2	34044 MOLLY NAILS (5)	Ms H Williams (a) 59.5 100	2.40
3	52048 MISS CHECKONI (w)	R Jones 57.5 94	7.90
4	04267 MISS CHECKONI (d w)	T Schiller 54.5 93	11.00
5	313 MISS MADES (2)	J Collett 54 89	9.00
6	11672 MATRIN (w)	Ms R King 54 89	14.00
7	21657 JUSTELA (w)	J Ford 54 90	16.00
8	34753 HOPE UNO (7)	Ms B Bourke (a) 54	87 11.00

MISS MADES, Molly Nails, Hope Uno, Galaxy Belle

5	4.20	TAB Handicap	1300m
No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price		
1	74795 DYNAMIC SPIRIT (h)	N Ravielli 61 62	12.00
2	02051 CLOUDLAND (w)	D Gibbons (a) 60.5 95	3.50
3	21465 STEP ASIDE (h)	J Collett 59 90	2.40
4	15249 IRON WILL (9)	B Owen 58 90	9.00
5	35044 MOLLY NAILS (w)	Scratched	57.5
6	2222 THE KING (w)	C Schofield 57.5 89	3.90
7	35163 SUMPTUARY (d)	Zac Lloyd (a) 56.5 88	14.00
8	72625 ATLANTIC OCEAN (w)	J Collett 56 96	11.00
9	22051 MISS FABERGE (8)	Ms R King 55.5 92	11.00
10	73452 SEETHING SEA (2)	R Jones 54 89	81.00

THE KING, Sumptuary, Atlantic Ocean, Miss Faberge

RACE 1	2.00	1100m
1	EVERYBODY RISE (P & Snowden) 2C	0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Prepared for debut with lg hd 2nd Goodlucktime 900m Rhill barrier trial Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (2-0-1-0). Full brother to Russian Revolution from a leading stable. Monitor betting moves.

2. FLYING ARGENTO (G P & Snowden) 2C 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Makes debut here after 34 len 4th Bronco Revolution 815m W Farm barrier trial Good(4) Oct 23. Trials: (1-0-0-1). Unplaced in only trial but with respected trainer of 2yos. Look to betting.

3. SPYRIE (C Maher & D Eustace) 2C 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Ready for debut with len win Media World, Interjection 900m Rhill barrier trial Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (1-1-0-0). Trial form points to a forward showing. Good watch watching.

4. STORM BOY (G Waterhouse & A Bott) 2C 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Launching career here after 7 len 5th Skogafoss, Growing Empire 815m W Farm barrier trial Good(4) Nov 8. Trials: (2-2-0-0-0). First foal of dam to race. In top stable and Tim Clark rides. Deserves attention after brilliant trial win.

5. TENSILE (James Cummings) 2C 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Launching career here after 7 len 5th Skogafoss, Growing Empire 815m W Farm barrier trial Good(4) Nov 8. Trials: (2-2-0-0-0). First foal of dam to race. In top stable and Tim Clark rides. Deserves attention after brilliant trial win.

6. VINIRIO (Annabel Neasham) 2C 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Prepared for debut with 2 len 2nd Matilda 737m Rhill barrier trial Good(4) Nov 3. Trials: (2-0-1-1). Has shown enough at the trials. Good draw. Look to markets.

7. CANARA (C J Waller) 2F 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Makes debut here after 5 len 6th Trafalgar Square 900m Rhill barrier trial Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (2-0-1-0). In premier stable and bred to go quick. Had trialed well previously. In strong yard. A leading rider engaged. Watch the market.

8. WANDAYE (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 2F 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Ready for debut with 1 len 4th Trafalgar Square 900m Rhill barrier trial Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (1-0-0-0-0). Watch the market.

9. DOLZINO (Robert Quinn) 3G 3-0-2-0-75250: Slowly away, overraced early, middle stages when 3 len 5th of 9 (9) \$130.055 Queen of Dragons 1400m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ Mdn Good(4) Oct 4. Took up the running when shk nk 2nd of 4 (4) \$34.05 Escutcheon 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. Led and just shaded on line at Kembra Grange at latest. In this.

10. DUKE OF LANCASTER (C J Waller) 3C 1-0-1-3900: Slowly away when shk nk, 3 len 3rd of 8 (8) \$50.055 Escutcheon, Doldrums 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. In leading yard. More experienced looking debut and extra 2yos. Has been good.

11. SO OUTRAGEOUS (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 3G 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Kicks off here after 4 len 5th Cassiel 1030m Rhill barrier trial (Mdn) Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (3-0-0-1). Had performed fairly in an earlier trial. Nice gate. Locally trained. Monitor betting moves.

12. DOLZINO (Robert Quinn) 3G 3-0-2-0-75250: Slowly away, overraced early, middle stages when 3 len 5th of 9 (9) \$130.055 Queen of Dragons 1400m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ Mdn Good(4) Oct 4. Took up the running when shk nk 2nd of 4 (4) \$34.05 Escutcheon 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. Led and just shaded on line at Kembra Grange at latest. In this.

13. DUKE OF LANCASTER (C J Waller) 3C 1-0-1-3900: Slowly away when shk nk, 3 len 3rd of 8 (8) \$50.055 Escutcheon, Doldrums 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. In leading yard. More experienced looking debut and extra 2yos. Has been good.

14. SO OUTRAGEOUS (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 3G 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Kicks off here after 4 len 5th Cassiel 1030m Rhill barrier trial (Mdn) Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (3-0-0-1). Had performed fairly in an earlier trial. Nice gate. Locally trained. Monitor betting moves.

15. DOLZINO (Robert Quinn) 3G 3-0-2-0-75250: Slowly away, overraced early, middle stages when 3 len 5th of 9 (9) \$130.055 Queen of Dragons 1400m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ Mdn Good(4) Oct 4. Took up the running when shk nk 2nd of 4 (4) \$34.05 Escutcheon 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. Led and just shaded on line at Kembra Grange at latest. In this.

16. DUKE OF LANCASTER (C J Waller) 3C 1-0-1-3900: Slowly away when shk nk, 3 len 3rd of 8 (8) \$50.055 Escutcheon, Doldrums 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. In leading yard. More experienced looking debut and extra 2yos. Has been good.

17. SO OUTRAGEOUS (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 3G 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Kicks off here after 4 len 5th Cassiel 1030m Rhill barrier trial (Mdn) Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (3-0-0-1). Had performed fairly in an earlier trial. Nice gate. Locally trained. Monitor betting moves.

18. DOLZINO (Robert Quinn) 3G 3-0-2-0-75250: Slowly away, overraced early, middle stages when 3 len 5th of 9 (9) \$130.055 Queen of Dragons 1400m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ Mdn Good(4) Oct 4. Took up the running when shk nk 2nd of 4 (4) \$34.05 Escutcheon 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. Led and just shaded on line at Kembra Grange at latest. In this.

19. DUKE OF LANCASTER (C J Waller) 3C 1-0-1-3900: Slowly away when shk nk, 3 len 3rd of 8 (8) \$50.055 Escutcheon, Doldrums 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. In leading yard. More experienced looking debut and extra 2yos. Has been good.

20. SO OUTRAGEOUS (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 3G 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Kicks off here after 4 len 5th Cassiel 1030m Rhill barrier trial (Mdn) Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (3-0-0-1). Had performed fairly in an earlier trial. Nice gate. Locally trained. Monitor betting moves.

21. DOLZINO (Robert Quinn) 3G 3-0-2-0-75250: Slowly away, overraced early, middle stages when 3 len 5th of 9 (9) \$130.055 Queen of Dragons 1400m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ Mdn Good(4) Oct 4. Took up the running when shk nk 2nd of 4 (4) \$34.05 Escutcheon 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. Led and just shaded on line at Kembra Grange at latest. In this.

22. DUKE OF LANCASTER (C J Waller) 3C 1-0-1-3900: Slowly away when shk nk, 3 len 3rd of 8 (8) \$50.055 Escutcheon, Doldrums 1300m Kembra Grange E&G Mdn Soft(7) Oct 28. In leading yard. More experienced looking debut and extra 2yos. Has been good.

23. SO OUTRAGEOUS (G Ryan & S Alexiou) 3G 0-0-0-0-0-0: First start. Kicks off here after 4 len 5th Cassiel 1030m Rhill barrier trial (Mdn) Soft(7) Nov 6. Trials: (3-0-0-1). Had performed fairly in an earlier trial. Nice gate. Locally trained. Monitor betting moves.

Gear Changes

RACE 1: (5) Tensile logging bit on first time, winkers on first time. (6) Vinrio pre-race ear muffs on first time. (7) Canara logging bit on first time.

RACE 2: (3) So Outrageous blinkers on first time, gelded, logging bit on first time; (4) Vanquished front bandages off first time; (6) 1 Am Smiling logging bit on first time.

RACE 4: (3) Miss Checkoni blinkers on first time. Take up: (1) Dynamic Spirit ear muffs off first time, nose roll on first time; (3) Step Aside nose roll on first time.

RACE 6: (11) Condrieu winkers on first time. Take up: (5) The Replacant blinkers on again; (10) Ring Ahoy blinkers on first time; (12) Futaim blinkers on first time, winkers off first time.

6. 4.55 James Squire 1800m

3yo & up Benchmark 72. Apprentices can claim \$60,000

No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price
1	10058 CRUZ MISSILE (w) (1) C Schofield 61 72 61.00
2	08565 FLAMBEUR (w) (3) R Jones 60 93 26.00
3	48314 GO TROPPO (w) (5) D Gibbons (a) 60 98 6.00
4	13021 STATE OF AMERICA (d w) (2) A Hyeronimus 59.5 100 2.70
5	14657 OUR BABINO (d w) (4) Jett Stanley (a) 59 89 21.00
6	8138 XTRAREVZ (10) N Ravielli 59 65 5.50
7	53183 BUILT WH (h) J Mc Donald 56.5 98 7.50
8	05426 THE ENGLISHMAN (w) J Parr 56 98 9.00
9	86355 YOUTHFUL (w) (6) T Schiller 56 95 23.00
10	09083 STRAY (9) J Collett 55.5 91 16.00
11	13021 STATE OF AMERICA (d w) (2) A Hyeronimus 59.5 100 2.70
12	04267 SKY DIAMONDS (w) (12) Scratched

EMERGENCY
13 15232 YET HE MOVES (h) (1) Scratched

STATE OF AMERICA, Built, Go Troppo, Xtrarevz

7. 5.30 Headwater @ Vinery Stud 1500m

C.H.G. Benchmark 72. Apprentices can claim \$60,000

No Form Horse	Jockey Wgt Rtg Price
1	5334 FAMOUS PEDRILLE (w) (3) Ms A Mc Lucas (a) 59.5 92 7.00
2	5555 HOKKAIDO (w) (6) N Ravielli 59.5 98 8.50
3	11670 THE LITTLE PUMPER (2) T Clark 59.5 87 5.00
4	55618 FLYING TRAPEZE (w) (7) J Collett 58.5 90 7.00
5	21465 STEP ASIDE (h) (5) A Hyeronimus 58 91 10.00
6	73422 CLEAR CHOICE (d w) (7) J Parr 57 100 7.50
7	18559 PURE HYDROGEN (w) (1) C Schofield 57 90 51.00
8	53183 BUILT WH (h) (3) Scratched
9	80628 MASTER COPY (1) Zac Lloyd (a) 56 93 5.50
10	24548 RING AHY (w) (12) K Mc Evoy 56 96 26.00
11	15232 YET HE MOVES (h) (1) J Mc Donald 56 98 5.50
12	73422 CLEAR CHOICE (d w) (7) J Parr 57 100 7.50
13	65550 DUB CENTRE (d w) (9) R Jones 54.5 84 81.00

YET HE MOVES, The Little Pumper, Flying Trapeze, Hokkaido

GALLOPS LEGEND: W won at track, C won here this distance, E Won this distance on another course, W won on rain affected going, N Won at night, S Spell of three months, B Beaten favourite last start, h Home track, D Disqualified, F Fell, P Pulled up, L Lost ride.

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2. MISS NAILS (Matthew Dale) 6M 14-4-13 \$160.075: Slowly away when 1 len 4th of 14 (14) \$36.0F 55.5 Sister Moon 1300m Bathurst The Panoramia Good(4) Sept 24. Slowly away, eased near 50m when 1 len 4th of 9 (9) \$95.055 Hide Your Heart 1400m Randwick-Kensington 4yo+ M (Bm72) Good(4) Oct 25. Not much luck from the tricky gate at Randwick-Kensington last start. Can play a key role.

3. MISS CHECKONI (Nick Mitchell) 6M 20-4-2-3 \$123.075: Raced wide without cover when 1 len 4th of 11 (11) \$101.055 50.0 Peace Officer 1300m Rhill 3yo+ M-Way-Bm72 Good(4) Sept 23. Took up a handy position in 2 len 4th of 15 (23) \$31.005 50.0 Peace Officer 1400m R-Wick 3yo+ M-Way-Bm72 Good(4) Oct 21. Freshened. Wasn't all that far away at Randwick last outing. Keep safe.

4. SKY DIAMONDS (K R Dryden) 7M 37-4-4 \$154.665: Lane 3/5 when 3 len 6th of 7 (7) \$21.005 54.0 Soul Choice 1600m W Farm 3yo+ F&M (Bm78) Good(4) Sept 20. Beaten but not disgraced when 3 len 7th of 9 (6) \$12.005 55.0 Myach Leon 1400m Wagga Open (Bm86) Good(4) Nov 3. Fair effort without threatening at Wagga last time. Place hope.

5. MISS MADES (G Portelli) 3F 42-0-2 \$48.000: Keen, hung out in straight when 1 len 5th of 8 (8) \$23.5F 54.5 Inzaghi, Irene of Athens 1400m Grange (Bm58) Good(4) Oct 15. Crowded at start, held up near turn when hd, lg nk 3rd of 10 (2) \$70.055 50.0 Bullfy For Your Money 1400m Kembra Grange (Bm64) Good(4) Oct 18. Balanced up middle when 1 len 5th of 9 (2) \$41.005 50.0 Lyrical Gangster 1800m Randwick-Kensington 3yo+ (Bm72) Good(4) Nov 1. Eight-year-old who ran just behind the placetellers at Randwick-Kensington last start. One for multiples.

6. MATRIN (Michael Travers) 6M 49-5-9-9 \$180.610: No match when 5 len 7th of 8 (8) \$6.50 61.5 Zelt 1100m Cootamundra (Bm66) Good(4) Oct 12. Settled midfield when 2 len 2nd of 9 (9) \$14.005 55.0 Myach Leon 1400m Wagga Open (Bm86) Good(4) Nov 3. Southern districts mare who looks tested here.

7. JUSTELA (J Parker) 5M 61-1-0 \$35.125: Laid out on straightening, laid out in straight when 6 len 1st of 6 (6) \$26.005 58.0 There There 2000m Gosford F&M (Ct) Soft(6) but 6 len 1st of 9 (9) \$14.005 55.0 Myach Leon 1400m Wagga Open (Bm86) Good(4) Nov 3. Southern districts mare who looks tested here.

8. HOPE UNO (Ms T Bateup) 6M 29-3-1-0 \$98.781: Sound when 3 len 5th of 9 (8) \$8.50 58.5 Ballistic Trapeze 1400m Nowra (Bm58) Good(4) Oct 15. Found the line, led when 2 len 1st of 14 (14) \$55.055 58.0 Owl Witness, Final Comment 1400m Sapphire Coast (Bm58) Good(4) Nov 2. Ran on well to place at Sapphire Coast last time out. Harder now but down in the weights and

DOOMBEN RACES

DAILY DOUBLE 6 & 8 E/QUAD 1, 2, 3, 4
TRACK: SOFT (5) RAIL: OUT 8M

1	2.18	Sky Racing Plate	1650m
Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim \$40,000			
No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg
1 05705 FIT AND PROPER (5)	M Heagerty	58.5	80
2 062 PAIRING (7)	M Heagerty	58.5	80
3 3 MANNERHEIM (2)	J Orman	57	81
4 3 TARIANAKI (1)	B Thornton	57	81
5 9 BEAM ME UP (6)	Jaden Lloyd	56.5	78
6 75s GLENISLA (1)	D Thornton	56.5	78
7 50564 PAPA MISS (10)	M R Du Plessis	56.5	74
8 00627 PUCON DREAM (8)	Ms S Coletti	56.5	79
9 55342 A CERTAIN MAYBE (3)	B Thompson	55	86
10 532 PRETTY LITTLE LIAR (9)	B Wheeler	55	100

PAIRING, Mannerheim, A Certain Maybe, Pretty Little Liar

2	2.53	Road To MM On Sale Plate	1200m
3yo Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim \$40,000			
No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg
1 70866 BEAULINE (10)	J Orman	58	87
2 642 EPIC FLASH (8)	M Harley	58	86
3 2 IMPENDOR (1)	R Maloney	58	100
4 53 LIONS PRIDE (5)	M R Du Plessis	58	89
5 2 PRESS LINK (4)	M Rodd	58	100
6 805 YEAH CORY (7)	Ms C Graham	58	79
7 8559 BETATHANAVA (3)	B Wheeler	58	72
8 565 DARLING HEART (2)	Ms S Coletti	56	80
9 869s HINATA (1)	Ms A Jones	56	85
10 8 HIT (13)	T Marshall	56	101
11 525 MARGOT'S BULLSEYE (9)	B Thompson	56	70
12 360 PATRICIA'S QUILL (2)	Scratched	56	-
13 946 SUNSHINE HIGHWAY (6)	K Wilson-Lloyd	56	90

IMPENDOR, Epic Flash, Lion's Pride, Margot's Bullseye

3	3.28	BRC Membership Plate	1200m
3yo Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim \$40,000			
No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg
1 23s BEAUTANES (7)	M Rodd	58	87
2 23s EXPLOSIVE DRAGON (10)	J Orman	58	87
3 3 JONNY DA WOLF (1)	M Murphy	58	100
4 534 MYSTIC MAC (12)	Ms M Castle	58	84
5 5656 RIDE FOR LUCK (11)	Scratched	58	-
6 7s AKEMI (1)	R Maloney	58	74
7 2652 BETTERLEDMEDANCE (4)	R Maloney	58	87
8 8 BUBBLES 'N' SPEAK (2)	T Marshall	56	101
9 3s CERTAINLYCAN (13)	Ms A Jones	56	81
10 23s DENOTE (9)	D Thornton	56	79
11 824 HOLY CROWN (8)	M Heagerty	56	81
12 5 PROCYON MISS (5)	Jaden Lloyd	56	80
13 98 VIDEX (6)	Ms C Waddell	56	73

CERTAINLYCAN, Procyon Miss, Betterleddance, Jonny Da Wolf

4	4.03	Cascade Handicap	1650m
Class 2. Apprentices can claim \$38,000			
No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg
1 1752 BURNT BY BERNIE (8)	B Wheeler	60	93
2 5645 NEVER GIVE UP (4)	J Orman	60	92
3 6504 PRIVATE BANKER (1)	Jaden Lloyd	60	84
4 2125s HOUSTON ROCKET dnt (2)	D Thornton	59.5	92
5 4442 PORKY dnt (7)	R Maloney	59.5	94
6 13964 HARD CHILL dnt (3)	B Thompson	58.5	95
7 01213 HAPPSBURGH (6)	M Harley	58.5	100
8 04314 TAMBOURINE MAN d (9)	B Springs	58.5	90
9 62274 STAR CHANCE wn (5)	K Wilson-Lloyd	57.5	83

BURNT BY BERNIE, Never Give Up, Happpsburgh, Private Banker

5	4.38	XXXX Gold Handicap	1100m
Maiden. Apprentices can claim \$40,000			
No Form Horse	Jockey	Wgt	Rtg
1 12538 DRIALLE (2)	M Harley	60	160
2 7952 DAINTEE DREAMING (11)	Ms T Thornton	59.5	82
3 3 JONNY DA WOLF (1)	Jaden Lloyd	60	84
4 4362s PARTY SPIRIT (7)	Scratched	59	-
5 35443 TAKING FLIGHT (8)	Ms C Waddell	59	81
6 5 BAD FOREST (4)	M R Du Plessis	58.5	66
7 7 LENNIC (10)	B Wheeler	58.5	77
8 53 LIONS PRIDE (5)	Scratched	58.5	-
9 03 HEAVENWOOD (3)	Ms Heagerty	57.5	83
10 ROSE NOIR (14)	Ms A Jones	57	78
11 9 BRIGHT BOBBLE (5)	Jaden Lloyd	56.5	79
12 2856 ROCK LOBSTER (1)	D Smith	56.5	94
13 869s HINATA (7)	Scratched	54.5	-

EMERGENCIES

14 70866 BEAULINE (6)	Scratched	56	-
15 5345s GRANDCOURT (13)	K H Zechner	54.5	84
16 4250 ALABAMA GOLD (12)	54	83	6700
17 8956s GEMMAYZE (16)	54	69	6700

TAKING FLIGHT, Heavenwood, Lennic, Daintee Dreaming

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THE GARDENS GREYHOUNDS

DAILY DOUBLE 6 & 8 E/QUAD 1, 2, 3, 4

TREBLE 6, 7, 8 QUADRELLA 5, 6, 7, 8

1 11.20 Welcome To Ladbrokes Gardens 400m

Maiden. \$1890

2 24 ONE REASON Natina Howard NBT

2 47632 MISS AQUAHOLIC Michael Thompson NBT

3 766 MISS NO MISS Annette Yarnold NBT

4 44525 DEBBIE KNOWS Christopher Kedwell NBT

5 VACANT BOX

6 2566 GRINCH Dana Ivers NBT

7 55 PLASTIC ROLEX Robert Watson NBT

8 64453 OLD MATE SIMBA Greg Ford NBT

ONE REASON, Debbie Knows, Miss Aquaholic, Grinch

ONE REASON (2) showed good early burst on debut here to lead into the final

stage finishing 2nd breaking 33 seconds before having no luck last week when

out on play soon after. He's drawn to lead and gets the chance to break his

maiden status. DEBBIE KNOWS (4) can settle on the speed and threaten

with MISS AQUAHOLIC (2) can place again

2 11.37 Ladbroke It! 400m

Maiden. \$1890

1 66668 CALL ME FRANKIE Beverly Sloan NBT

2 533 OSCAR TOMMY Ricky Brewer NBT

3 73482 JUST HULK John Eather FSH

4 645 KENZIE ROBO Eileen Robertson NBT

5 VACANT BOX

6 567 ZARKEY Lindsay Davis FSH

7 84637 CIRCUS MOON Lisa Lamb NBT

8 434 LUCIANNA Steven Carr NBT

OSCAR TOMMY, Zarkey, Luciana, Kenzie Robbo

Maiden race with most chances of a break through with early luck

OSCAR TOMMY (2) comes into this having placed 3rd in his last 2 runs over

this trip and while probably better suited drawn wider he should get more

must be hard to beat. ZARKEY (6), LUCIANNA (8) and KENZIE ROBO

(4) can all salute without surprising

3 11.57 Minimi Hotel 272m

Maiden. \$1890

1 47 FIRST FRANKY Gary Robertson FSH

2 57644 SHARKY UNITED Dana Ivers NBT

3 27838 ANKLES Phillip Carrall FSTD

4 8738 CAN'T TOUCH IT Phillip Carrall FSTD

5 2 HARD STYLE ROBO Eileen Robertson NBT

6 38667 HOOKED ME Meredith Verhagen NBT

7 6724 BLACK FIRE ALPHA Jeannette Roche NBT

8 5 MY ZIPPER Natina Howard FSTD

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SPORT AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL

New talent pathway 'first step' for Tassie

A REVAMPED talent pathway for boys and girls in Tasmania has been described as the first step in setting up the island state for success in the AFL.

Tasmania was granted the league's 19th licence in May for a slated 2028 start, with the AFL pledging a \$360 million investment in the franchise.

The AFL on Tuesday announced that from next year \$500,000 of that money would be spent annually on developing homegrown talent via a new pathway model.

The league plans to appoint a state talent manager, a dedicated skill acquisition coach, and regional development coaches in the south, north and northwest.

There will be an initial focus on establishing expanded talent development programs for 12- to 15-year-old boys and girls.

"It is the first step in bringing to life the investment that was announced in May," AFL manager of game development Rob Auld said.

"We know there is a rich history of Tasmanian players who have made it to the elite level, and it is important we strengthen that ... into the future."

The AFL has faced increasing competition at grassroots level from basketball following the emergence of the Tasmania JackJumpers two years ago. AFL chief executive Andrew Dillon said the goal was for 12- to 15-year-

olds to be part of the club's first intake when it joins the league.

"Part of a Tasmanian club being successful in both competitions is needing Tasmanian talent to be a cornerstone of that success," he said.

The program intends to complement existing local community clubs and associations.

The club plans to "very shortly" begin community consultation around the side's name, colour and jerseys.

A major hurdle remains the construction of a 23,000-seat stadium at Macquarie Point in Hobart - a condition for the AFL granting Tasmania a licence, and part of the league's contract with the state government.

The project, which has attracted some political and community opposition, will be assessed by the state's independent planning commission.

The project must then be passed by both houses of parliament to receive final approval.

Auld said the AFL remained committed to Tasmania's involvement in the AFL and AFLW, and said processes would play out over time.

Tasmania Football Club board member Kathryn McCann said she was confident planning and construction time frames for the stadium could be met.



Sydney are confident of overcoming Adelaide after beating the Suns in week one of the AFLW finals. Picture AAP

'Why not us?': Swans set to fly

DRIVEN by "why not us?" grit, Sydney believe they have a shot at stalling the Adelaide AFLW juggernaut.

Bolstered by a thrilling 17-point elimination-final triumph over Gold Coast, the Swans continue their fairy-tale season on Saturday with a trip to Norwood Oval for a semi-final against the Crows.

The odds are stacked against Sydney in their first-ever clash against the three-time premiers side, but Adelaide would be silly

to underestimate the in-form second-year team.

Out-tackling the Suns 105-66 to snatch victory last time out, the Swans run hot into this weekend boasting four consecutive wins while the Crows try to regroup from their two-point loss to the Brisbane Lions.

"I feel the group now knows what's required," Sydney coach Scott Gowans said on Tuesday.

"We speak about it all the time - we're having fun at

the moment. It's not like it's a chore, like we're digging holes in the middle of a road somewhere.

"We're actually doing a fun thing and we just take the momentum and we just go with it.

"They're (Adelaide) the best at grabbing momentum and squashing you like a bug, but we're super excited and can't wait to get over there."

Sydney will be without prolific goalkicker Bec Priftelli (Lisfranc injury).



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Risk-taking Yengi ready for Socceroos bow

SOCCER

KUSINI Yengi is young, confident and ready to take his Socceroos opportunity with both hands.

The 24-year-old Portsmouth striker could debut in Thursday's World Cup qualifier against Bangladesh at AAMI Park after earning his maiden call-up.

Yengi is the fourth, and youngest, No.9 in Graham Arnold's squad, joining Mitch Duke (32), Jamie Maclaren (30) and Brandon Borrello (28).

When asked what set him apart from his experienced counterparts, Yengi quipped: "I guess you're gonna have to wait and see."

"At the end of the day, I can talk and say whatever I want, but when I get on the pitch, that's where you really find out what's the differences I have from the other strikers."

"We've got some great strikers in the squad, players that I idolise, to be honest."

"Growing up, I've been watching Maclaren bang in goals in the A-League for fun for some time now and he's someone that I looked at and tried to take things from

his game as well. These are all players that I look at and idolise, players I can learn things from and also want to compete to take their spot as well."

Yengi admits he likes to

"be a bit of a nuisance", taking players on and showcasing his flair one-on-one.

"I dare to take risks and that's a part of the reason that I'm in the team," he said. It's working.

The former Western Sydney and Adelaide frontman has five goals in eight games for Pompey after making the move overseas.

Yengi was in contention for September's friendly

against Mexico until he was sidelined through injury.

"It's something that I think that I worked hard for and I was deserving of it in a way, so when I got the ankle injury, it was a bit disap-

We've got some great strikers in the squad, players that I idolise.

Kusini Yengi

pointing," he said. "But I just channelled my focus into getting back on the pitch and trying to score goals and get back in contention for being in the squad."

Yengi, of South Sudanese background, is also determined to leave his own mark.

"It's something that I look at very seriously and I know that growing up when I was a kid, there wasn't too many players of African descent coming through in the Socceroos," he said.

"But lately there's been more and more and players like Awer Mabil and Thomas Deng that have played really well for the Socceroos ... when you see someone come from where you come from make it, you think, 'Why not? Why can't I do that?'"



Former Western Sydney striker Kusini Yengi is in line for a Socceroos debut after impressing in England. Picture AAP

Metcalfe's keen to make his mark after hot start in Germany

SOCCER

THE Socceroos' next generation are here, starting to make big moves and ready for their time in the spotlight.

Connor Metcalfe is chief among them.

The 24-year-old midfielder is flying for club side FC St Pauli, who are top of the 2. Bundesliga and on track for promotion to Germany's top division.

After missing out on last year's World Cup, the versatile Metcalfe is rapidly becoming a fixture in Graham Arnold's squads.



Connor Metcalfe is ready to impress on the big stage for the Socceroos. Picture AAP

"I'm just enjoying football and we're doing really well back in Germany," Metcalfe

said ahead of Thursday's World Cup qualifier against Bangladesh at AAMI Park.

"We're just staying positive, we're just not thinking too far ahead obviously with club and then personally I'm just enjoying my football. There's no real secret to it."

Having Socceroos mainstay Jackson Irvine alongside him for club and country has helped.

"He's had a big influence on me," Metcalfe said.

"When I first arrived over there, he helped me out a lot with just making me feel comfortable in the team and stuff like that, and then even being here in this team now,

he's a friendly face. He knows everyone and he's one of the leaders back in Germany and especially here he's one of the leaders as well."

"He's a quality player and he's played a lot of minutes, so I'll take any advice he can give me."

Metcalfe is among several players in their early-to-mid-20s who have moved on from the A-League Men and are now making an impact overseas.

Keanu Baccus is now a Socceroos mainstay, as are injured duo Riley McGree

and Nathaniel Atkinson, while Aiden O'Neill is also a regular call-up.

Young defenders Jordy Bos and Alessandro Circati have also impressed.

"As you can see now there's a lot of boys overseas around mid 20s that are finally making the move and playing consistently and things like that," Metcalfe said.

"So that was the first step in our careers: getting over there and playing regular minutes and then obviously trying to cement your spot in this team."

Molik singles out Storm for solo success

TENNIS

ALICIA Molik is nudging Storm Hunter to follow in the footsteps of grand slam champions Ash Barty and Sam Stosur and parlay her doubles success into a distinguished singles career.

Hunter on Monday became the first Australian since Stosur in 2006 to claim the women's world No.1 doubles ranking following a stellar two-title 2023 campaign that also featured a run to the Wimbledon final and season-ending championship semis alongside

Belgian Elise Mertens.

Tellingly, the modern-day Rockhampton southpaw also continued to make big strides in singles with another heroic Billie Jean King Cup display for Australia.

She also qualified for the main draw at both the French Open and Wimbledon.

Now Molik wants Hunter to kick on in singles, pointing out how Barty, Stosur and even American prodigy Coco Gauff, who won this year's US Open, snared doubles slams before

excelling on court without a partner.

"It's quite common. Even I had more success in doubles before singles. Every Aussie has trod that path, to be honest. It's almost a rite of passage," Molik said.

"In a weird way, the years on tour, building confidence, the titles in doubles and then singles careers generally often kick off after doubles success."

"The belief as well from doubles wins, it does translate to singles."

Despite being Australia's

last woman standing in singles at Roland Garros this year and recording the nation's only singles win at last week's Billie Jean King Cup finals in Spain, Hunter is ranked 177th in the world. Because of prioritising doubles, her highest singles ranking so far was No.118 in late 2021. But Molik, Australia's departing BJK Cup captain, hopes Hunter will have a rethink.

"Maybe capturing No.1 in doubles might free her up to potentially play a few more singles events," she said.

Alcaraz beaten as he finally makes his ATP Finals debut

TENNIS

CONSIDERING all that he's accomplished over the last two years - two grand slam titles and finishing last season as No.1 - Carlos Alcaraz no doubt belongs among the world's elite.

Still, this wouldn't have been the ATP Finals debut the Spaniard was hoping for at the season-ending event in Turin for the year's top eight players.

After missing the finals last year because of an abdominal injury, Alcaraz was

beaten in his opening match on Monday by two-time champion Alexander Zverev 6-7 (3-7), 6-3, 6-4.

Later in the red group, Daniil Medvedev began his campaign with a 92-minute 6-4, 6-2 win over good friend and fellow Russian Andrey Rublev.

After losing third-set tiebreaks in each of his ATP Finals matches last season, Medvedev extended his lead for most tour-level wins (65) and most hard-court wins (48) this season.



Can Canberra sustain a Big Bash team, an NBL team, and another A-League team? Pictures by Keegan Carroll and Gary Ramage

Can Canberra sustain a triple threat?

Fans in the capital have called for an A-League team, an NBL team and a Big Bash team. How much is too much?

Caden Helmers

INVESTORS are in town scouring the market for an A-League licence, Cal Bruton is on standby to load the Cannons, and Andrew Barr wants to spend his summer watching the sunset at Manuka Oval.

But can Canberra sustain three professional men's teams at a time most of the city's residents are on their way down the Clyde?

The race is on to deliver a professional men's team to Canberra, with the first to strike giving themselves the greatest chance of capturing a fan base and securing corporate dollars.

Two groups of potential A-League club backers spent time in Canberra this month touring facilities and meeting with officials with the league keen to establish a men's team in the capital, while ACT Chief Minister Barr has met with Cricket Australia to outline his vision to redevelop Manuka Oval and establish a Big Bash franchise in the ACT.

NBL officials with a desire to return to Canberra are at the mercy of the city's endless venue debate, with the capital lacking an indoor arena capable of meeting the league's standards.

Yet NBL chief executive David Stevenson - who helped engineer the initial deal between the AFL, GWS and ACT government to bring Giants games to Manuka Oval - is confident the league can have long-term success in Canberra even if rival codes beat basketball to the punch.

The easy part is granting a licence. The harder part is how you build that connection to fans, how to put a strong high performance program in place, how do you build good corporate partnerships, how do you make the financials work so that club can be successful?

NBL chief David Stevenson

"We're aware of the level of interest of other sports, but we wouldn't compromise quality to get speed. There's no point in being first if you're not strong and successful," Stevenson said.

"We'd rather take the time to make sure we've got the right venue and proposition. If that takes a bit of extra time, we're okay to wait."

Canberra's summer of sport has long been dominated by women's teams in the Canberra Capitals, Canberra United and ACT Meteors, with a handful of top flight cricket games added to the calendar.

The city has been without a professional



Canberra fans have filled the AIS for NBL games in the past. Picture by Jamila Toderas

men's team in the summer codes since the Cannons went under in 2003.

The Gold Coast and Darwin have emerged as leading contenders for an NBL licence, with slowly-moving remedial works at the AIS Arena and a lack of any other venue options pushing Canberra down the list.

While ambitious NBL owner Larry Kestelman believes basketball can reel in cricket to become Australia's most popular summer sport, Stevenson says the league - which is trending upwards - will steer clear of expanding "for expansion's sake".

"We have to remember back that it was only eight or nine years ago that you had a number of clubs falling over in the NBL before Larry decided to invest and support the league," Stevenson said.

"What we want to make sure is we don't just expand for expansion's sake, we want

to make sure it's not just about granting a licence but it's also about that club and that licence being successful in the community.

"The easy part is granting a licence. The harder part is how you build that connection to fans, how to put a strong high performance program in place, how do you build good corporate partnerships, how do you make the financials work so that club can be successful?"

"We're less focused on the number, and more focused on the strength of those clubs and teams.

"There could be a model at 16 teams down the track that we'd look at, but we'd rather ensure all of those clubs and licences are strong, successful, have their own identity, are commercially viable, and are adding value to their local communities.

"That's our measure of success."

Brumbies centralisation talks ramp up

Cameron Mee, Darren Walton

THE ACT Brumbies will meet with Rugby Australia over the coming days amid a thawing relationship between the two parties.

The governing body announced a formal agreement with the NSW Waratahs on Tuesday, with RA to take control of the professional program from January 1.

RA will take responsibility for the Waratahs' high-performance operations - including the playing roster - plus assets, liabilities and commercial arrangements, with all NSW employees continuing in their current roles.

While the Waratahs have the most to gain and least to lose, there has been suspicion in Canberra about RA's plans.

As a result, talks between the Brumbies and the national body have been tense at best and at times hostile.

ACT officials have agreed to a centralised model of the rugby program, however wish to retain control of their off-field operations.

This led to RA auditing the franchise's finances in an attempt to prove they weren't solvent. The Brumbies accept finances are tight but remain solvent.

The frosty relationship between the two parties has thawed recently and talks ramped up earlier this week. ACT chief executive Phil Thomson will meet with RA counterpart Phil Waugh over

the coming days in an attempt to map out a mutually beneficial partnership.

The conversations are in their formative stages, with the pair yet to discuss finer details and an agreement still a long way off.

"We've had some preliminary discussions," Thomson said. "We'll be speaking more in the coming days."

In announcing the Waratahs deal, Waugh insisted RA was not attempting to takeover the franchises.

The Queensland Reds have also resisted the push to centralise all aspects of their professional arm.

Waugh is optimistic the Melbourne Rebels and Western Force will back the program in coming weeks.

He is also hopeful of talking the Brumbies around before the start of the 2024 Super Rugby season.

The RA boss insists much progress has been made in talks with the Brumbies over the past month, and says his 30-year relationship with Thomson certainly helps.

"We don't see it as a takeover. We see it as an integration and partnership and alignment," Waugh said.

"We are not content to sit on the sidelines any longer on this much-needed reform, and I hope all Super Rugby clubs will follow our lead as we push forward on an aligned Australian rugby ecosystem."

Selling the dream to the Brumbies hasn't been easy. Waugh has allayed relocation



Brumbies chief executive Phil Thomson has met with Rugby Australia as the Waratahs agreed to a deal with the governing body. Pictures by Keegan Carroll and Sitthixay Dittthavong



concerns, offering the ACT-based outfit a guarantee they won't be moved.

"The Brumbies have been with us - and dominating - since 1996," Waugh said.

"It's not in anyone's interest to be trying to shift that team anywhere else, so there certainly hasn't been that conversation anymore."

RA's intended overhaul comes after the Wallabies failed to progress from the group stages for the first time at a Rugby World Cup.

"The key here is getting a more successful national team. That drives interest of those that don't follow rugby and those that are questioning whether they want to be involved in rugby," Waugh said.

"You look through the history of when Australia's done well at a Wallaby level, it drives interest into the game, it drives commercial interest into the game, and it brings the game together."

"This is around getting a

better high-performance outcome, as well as more laser focus on community."

A key plank in the centralisation process is appointing a high-performance director to oversee the coaching program, with Waugh confident of unveiling a recruit before Christmas.

He also wants the new Wallabies coach on deck before the start of the Super Rugby season in March.

"As long as we get the best possible candidate, I'm less

concerned around the timeline of that," Waugh said.

"It's about getting the best candidate for head coach, and the best candidate for head coach also then brings a really strong assistant coaching team and structure."

"(But) whilst we do have time through to July when we play the next Test, we know that the available coaches and the best possible coaches on the market get snapped up really quickly after the World Cup."

'Moving the AIS would be quite devastating'

■ From back page

Representatives from Senator David Pocock and Alicia Payne's offices contributed to the discussion, while rugby union, basketball, softball, cycling, gymnastics, swimming, cricket, Australia rules, netball, rowing and athletics provided input.

"We have the right to dream," Berry told the group at the end of the discussion.

"We had a short period of time to gather everyone ... for a big conversation. You can hear from the people in there, there's a real passion for wanting to be involved."

"If you took [the closure of the AIS Arena] and spread that over the whole facility, the impact would be quite devastating [if the AIS was moved]."

"People are putting their minds to not just, 'don't take it', but also here are all the reasons why. It's not just because we're the nation's capital or because we have feelings."

"It's because the role [the AIS] plays. Not just to our city and the nation to all the sports, community, education events and economics. It would be quite devastating [to have it moved]." The ACT government's plans for a new or upgraded stadium at Bruce and taking charge of the AIS Arena operations rely heavily on the federal government's plans for the AIS precinct.



ACT Sport Minister Yvette Berry, main, met with sporting bodies on Tuesday to discuss the future of the AIS. Pictures by Karleen Minney, Keegan Carroll

The federal government owns the stadium and the arena. The arena has been closed since early 2020, but the federal government is funding upgrades to reopen the capital's largest indoor venue by mid 2024.

"The AIS facilities are critical to the future of Canberra community sport," said one participant on Tuesday.

ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr nomi-

nated Bruce as his preferred location for a new rectangular stadium earlier this year after spending almost a decade pursuing Civic as an option.

Barr commissioned another stadium feasibility study to examine the options at Bruce and Exhibition Park, including upgrading the existing venue or building a new one at Bruce.

REBELS HIRE FLAG-WINNING PSYCHOLOGIST FOR HELP

Melbourne have enlisted an AFL premiership sports psychologist to address their Super Rugby Pacific shortcomings and also help their Wallabies players, including playmaker Carter Gordon, deal with the fall-out from the World Cup failure.

Andrew Waterson, who was part of the Melbourne Demons' AFL flag success in 2021 before spending the past two seasons with Hawthorn has joined the Rebels.

Melbourne have narrowly missed the Super play-offs in a number of seasons, only participating in finals once, in 2020, in a domestic format due to COVID-19 restrictions. Coach Kevin Foote wants more from the under-performing outfit, who have Test forwards Taniela Tupou and Lukhan Salakaia-Loto among some highly-rated signings. He is hoping that Waterson can help the Rebels close out a number of tight games which proved costly to their finals hopes. "We look at our results last year and in the final 20 minutes, we don't believe it's a physical thing, we think it's a mental thing so we've brought a sports psych in supporting us there," Foote said.

Dolphins 'positive' on challenging fixture

THE 2024 NRL draw has good, bad and ugly elements to it for the Dolphins, but club CEO Terry Reader is looking on the bright side.

The Dolphins will play the week before all three State of Origin games - against Canberra, Melbourne and South Sydney - where they will be without their Origin stars.

Queensland trio Tom Gilbert, Tom Flegler and Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow are all likely to be missing and possibly Maroons stalwart Felise Kaufusi.

They also have byes in rounds three, 14 and 18 but none of them are the round before or after an Origin match so their representative players will not get a rest.

On the flip side of those challenges, the Dolphins have been given an opportunity to make a fast start to the season if they are good enough.

After starting with North Queensland at Suncorp Stadium in round one they host St George Illawarra in Redcliffe, have the bye and then play Gold Coast (away) and Wests Tigers (home), all teams that finished outside the top eight in 2023.

In the opening 11 rounds they play just two top-eight sides (Brisbane and Newcastle) from last year and leave Queensland just once.

"There are always positives and negatives in every draw, and challenges," Reader said. "We are going to be positive about it but there is only one team that will play three games without their Origin players and that is us."

"I have noted the feedback from our fans so far and the overwhelming reaction to the draw is one of excitement. They are over the moon we are opening with a Queensland derby blockbuster against the Cowboys in Brisbane at Suncorp Stadium."

"We also only have to travel on an aeroplane twice in the opening 11 rounds which is a real positive for us from a football point of view. If we can get off to a good start it will set us up for a strong season and hopefully our fans will get right behind us like they did last season."

The Dolphins have two games against cross-town rivals the Broncos, in round six and round 26 both at Suncorp Stadium. The round-26 clash is on the same August 31 night as the Brisbane Festival's traditional Riverfire event, but the Dolphins are confident it won't affect crowd numbers.



Matt Timoko returns to Canberra after success with the Kiwis. Picture by Sithixay Ditthavong

Breaking down the good, the bad, and the ugly of the Raiders' draw

Caden Hermers

WHETHER the Canberra Raiders have a rails run to the NRL finals or not depends on who you talk to, so if you were to ask Ricky Stuart?

The Raiders coach will tell you the fixture is a calendar of events, not a crystal ball. He'll tell you that in 20 years as an NRL coach, he's never had an easy season.

So let's break down Canberra's 2024 fixture, find the games to watch and pick out the pressure points.

THE SNAPSHOT

Who the Raiders play twice: Cronulla, Newcastle, the Sydney Roosters, Wests Tigers, Manly, Canterbury and North Queensland.

Who the Raiders play once: Penrith, Brisbane,

Parramatta, Gold Coast, Melbourne, South Sydney, St George Illawarra and the Dolphins.

How many free-to-air games: Seven

Day-by-day breakdown: One Thursday game [away], five Friday games [three home, two away], nine Saturday games [four home, five away], nine Sunday games [five home, four away]. Canberra only have one five-day turnaround.

ONES TO WATCH

Watching Jack Wighton wearing another club's jersey will take some getting used to for Canberra fans.

At least they will have about five months to adjust their eyes before Wighton's South Sydney Rabbitohs head to Canberra Stadium

on July 28.

While they're at it, Raiders fans should circle August 24. That's when Penrith come to town as they hunt for four consecutive premierships.

Last time they were here? They walloped Canberra 53-12 and took the wind out of the sails for Raiders fans. The round 25 clash, just weeks out from the finals, could define Canberra as contenders or pretenders.

PRESSURE POINTS

The opening month. The Raiders hit the road three times in the first four rounds - and waiting at the end of every road trip is a member of this year's top eight.

Canberra head to Newcastle to face a Knights outfit led by Dally M-winning fullback

Kalyn Ponga in round one before hosting the Wests Tigers in round two.

Then the Raiders are flying to Christchurch to face a resurgent New Zealand Warriors side - the only member of this year's top four Canberra will play twice in 2024 - before heading to Cronulla in round four.

CLUB-BY-CLUB

BRISBANE

Travel to Penrith in round three to try to avenge last season's grand final heartbreak and are no longer the team with the most free-to-air games, with South Sydney swiping their long-held crown.

CANBERRA

Will need to wait until

round 21 to face favourite son-turned South Sydney recruit Jack Wighton. Spared playing either of last year's grand finalists twice.

CANTERBURY

Face teams fresh from the bye in three consecutive weeks between rounds 11 and 13. Face five of last season's top eight twice but only one of those is a top four side.

CRONULLA

The big winners out of the draw, facing only one of last year's top-four twice but playing all of the bottom four twice.

DOLPHINS

Don't have to leave Queensland until round seven but are the only team playing in all three rounds



Jack Wighton will be on the opposing team in 2024, while Canberra's campaign kicks off in Newcastle. Pictures by Elesia Kurtz/Jonathan Carroll



when State of Origin players are unavailable.

GOLD COAST

Have the fewest free-to-air games of any Australian-based side. New coach Des Hasler meets former side Manly twice, in rounds seven and 20.

MANLY

The only team that has both no five-day turnarounds and faces no teams off the bye. Won't have the chance to host former coach Des Hasler until July.

MELBOURNE

The hard luck story, facing all the other top-four sides from 2023 twice and playing 12 of a possible 14 games against 2023 finalists.

NEWCASTLE

Have five more free-to-air games than last season and host the first game in Australia, a Thursday night clash with Canberra in round one.

NORTH QUEENSLAND

Struggled away from home in 2023 but only have to leave Townsville twice after round 17. Avoid trips to Auckland and Melbourne in another boost to improving their away record.

PARRAMATTA

After famously struggling against teams off the bye early in 2023, the Eels face three sides with fresh legs in the final four weeks of the season. Have the equal-most five-day turnarounds.

PENRITH

A tough start to the season as was the case in 2023, meeting Melbourne, Brisbane and the Sydney Roosters inside the opening month, as well as Parramatta, their Kryptonite in recent seasons.

SOUTH SYDNEY

No side has more free-to-air games and on 19 occasions they have a break of seven or more days, more than any other side.

DRAGONS

The unlucky side to miss

out on Magic Round this season. New coach Shane Flanagan faces former side Cronulla twice, with the home game hosted in Wollongong.

SYDNEY ROOSTERS

A tough trot to begin things, playing five clashes against last season's top four teams in the opening 10 weeks, without a bye in that period. Face bitter rivals South Sydney twice, in round three and the weekend before finals.

WARRIORS

The easiest run of last year's top four, facing only one top four team in the opening 10 weeks. Don't have a five-day turnaround until round 24 and a bye in the last week gives them the perfect platform to launch into finals.

WESTS TIGERS

A meeting with former halfback Luke Brooks isn't scheduled until round 25 but they'll host the new Sea Eagle at spiritual home Leichhardt Oval.

NRL cap exemptions for rugby raids will be fair: Abdo

NRL chief Andrew Abdo insists any salary-cap exemptions to attract players from rival codes would be implemented fairly, as league bosses eye off potential incentives for a looming raid on rugby.

The ARL Commission is expected to discuss potential options for exemptions at next month's meeting, with Rugby Australia bosses admitting a horror World Cup has left them vulnerable.

During a dramatic 2023, Joseph-Aukuso Suaalii has been successfully lured to the 15-man game, Eddie Jones has come and gone as Wallabies coach, and the likes of Cameron Murray have opted to stay put in rugby league.

But there is the potential of the NRL striking back. The Sydney Roosters are reportedly in talks with Wallabies winger Mark Nawaqanitawase, while NSW Waratahs teenager Max Jorgensen has long been a target for the NRL.

"We want the best athletes playing our game, whether that's the men's or women's competition," Abdo said.

"Growth is on our agenda, so while our primary focus is developing rugby league talent through our own pathways, we're also open to attracting and, potentially in some cases, returning to league from other codes.

"Would salary-cap relief be potentially used? Yes. That's an absolute possibility that the commission will consider, and consider in due course."

Getting that right, while appeasing all 17 clubs with a level playing field, stands as the NRL's biggest challenge.

Salary-cap exemptions are already in place for developed players and veterans, with up to 10 per cent of their salaries wiped off the cap to a maximum of \$300,000 per club per year.

A similar system could potentially be put in place for players who have been signed from rival codes.

"Any change the commission might make to that policy will have to be very carefully considered, and there will be parameters and



The Roosters are reportedly in talks with rugby star Mark Nawaqanitawase.

caps," Abdo said. "It won't be a free-for-all.

"It will be delicate and it will be about making sure there's an opportunity for all clubs on an equal basis to have one or two talented players that they recruit potentially from other codes around the world.

"It'll be carefully considered though, because we do want to make sure that we focus on our pathways, and we also want to maintain competitive balance."

Abdo's comments came as Rugby Australia CEO Phil Waugh conceded his ailing code needed to win back the faith of the players after the Wallabies' disastrous group-stage exit at the World Cup.

"We talk about building trust and connection. We've lost a lot of trust with the playing group as well," Waugh said on Tuesday.

"The experience that they had this year with the Wallabies at the World Cup, compared to what they would have envisaged going into the World Cup, might have been very different.

"So it's really important for us to build a system that's attractive for them to be a part of."

James Maloney joins Cowboys

DUAL NRL premiership winner James Maloney will reunite with former Cronulla teammates Chad Townsend and Valentine Holmes when he joins New Queensland as an assistant coach.

The 37-year-old, who won the 2013 title with Sydney Roosters and the 2016 grand final alongside Holmes and Townsend at the Sharks, has inked a two-year deal to work alongside head coach Todd Payten.

Maloney will join Justin Morgan and Ben Rauter in the Cowboys' assistant coaching ranks where he will specialise in working on the side's attack.

The creative playmaker retired from playing rugby league in May of this year after a stint as a player-coach in the French Elite One competition with Lezignan.

That was after two seasons and 42 games with UK Super League outfit Catalans, following his 247 NRL appearances with Melbourne, the Warriors, Roosters, Sharks and Penrith.

Maloney, who also played 14 games for NSW and three times for Australia, is renowned for his rugby league nous and ability to pick apart an opposition defence.

It is those qualities, along with his recent playing experience in the modern game, that attracted the Cowboys.

"We are excited at the prospect of the new dimension James will add to our program," Cowboys general manager of football Micheal Luck said.

"With an experienced assistant in Justin Morgan coming on board this year, we made the decision to target a younger coach with recent experience on the field to focus on our attack.

"We met with Jimmy in Townsville last week and we were impressed with how he presented and the ideas he had to improve our team.

"He will be an excellent sounding board for our spine, in particular our young halves in Tom Dearden, Tom Duffy and Jake Clifford."

The Cowboys will play their first games of 2024 in the NRL's Pre-Season Challenge in February against Brisbane in Mackay and Canberra in Queanbeyan.

Meanwhile, NRL chief Andrew Abdo said the ARL Commission would determine the next steps on the league's own expansion in coming months.

A Papua New Guinea team based out of Cairns is favoured to be the 18th NRL side, from as early as 2027.

"We haven't concluded yet on when expansion will take place," Abdo said.

SPORT CRICKET

Hunt focused on the task at hand as Test chance looms

SHEFFIELD SHIELD

Cameron Mee

HENRY Hunt has heard all the talk.

A baggy green will soon be up for grabs as David Warner's imminent retirement edges closer.

Hunt is among a host of contenders lining up for first crack at the soon-to-be vacant opening position in the Australian Test team.

Cameron Bancroft, Matt Renshaw and Marcus Harris are also in the mix and unlike Hunt, the trio each boast international experience.

The former ACT Comet, however, is the youngest of the group and shapes as a stable long-term option.

Warner is expected to feature in the three-game series against Pakistan before hanging up the bat with a farewell Test at the SCG in January.

From there, however, Hunt is among the contenders for two Tests against the West Indies in Adelaide and Brisbane.

The opener is aware of the opportunity that exists, but said it's not on his mind as he looks to build on an impressive century for South Australia last week.

"Everyone's speculating about this," Hunt said. "The big thing I've got to keep doing is scoring runs. I've been out of the runs for a while up until last week.

"I've got to keep doing well for South Australia and all that other stuff is completely irrelevant for me, scoring runs for South Australia is my main priority."

Hunt sent a timely reminder to Australian selectors last week with a dominant 162 in South Australia's thrilling victory over Queensland.



Runs for South Australia have placed Henry Hunt firmly in Australian Test contention. Picture AAP

Current Test opener and Bulls skipper Usman Khawaja received an up close view of the innings in the field and surely would have been impressed by what he saw from the youngster in tricky batting conditions at the Gabba.

Hunt's next chance to deliver will come on Wednesday as the Redbacks face Western Australia in Perth.

The WACA pitch is among the toughest for openers to bat on in the country, the deck renowned for producing seam-friendly conditions with the new ball.

The match shapes as a one-on-one showdown with Bancroft and both men are determined to come out on top.

For Hunt, it's another opportunity to build on the platform he laid in Brisbane last week and set his team up for victory.

"I've had some good starts but it's unfortunate when you can't get some big scores

off the back of good starts," he said. "It was nice to finally go on with one last week and get 160.

"There's been a few ups and downs and some tough wickets with the new ball where it's been hard to score early so it's nice to finally go on with a start.

"It's nice at the WACA to get consistency with bounce. I've always enjoyed batting at the WACA. I've had some success there but I've also been undone by some good bowling there as well. Western Australia have some pretty good players on their list and skilful bowlers."

This week is the second last Sheffield Shield round before the competition takes a break for the Big Bash. Test hopefuls, however will have one additional chance to put their hand up in the Prime Minister's XI match at Manuka in early December.

Hunt featured in the clash last year

alongside Renshaw and Harris and hopes to return to Canberra for the second-straight year.

Australian selector George Bailey declared on Monday the match is a genuine selection trial, with his panel placing heavy emphasis on performances against international opposition.

Hunt is yet to receive a call from Bailey regarding the Prime Minister's XI fixture but said the clash would provide a valuable learning experience.

"It was good last year playing against a national side in the West Indies," Hunt said. "Coming together with some of the best cricketers in the Australian domestic competitions, it was nice to rub shoulders with them.

"It's a great experience playing at that level and you take what you can out of it, whether it batting, fielding, tactically or strategically."

Skipper unsure of his one-day future

AUSTRALIA

PAT Cummins is unsure if he will continue as Australia's one-day international captain after the World Cup, but is looking to return to the Indian Premier League next season in preparation for the Twenty20 showpiece.

Test skipper Cummins, who will lead Australia into their semi-final against South Africa on Thursday, took on the ODI role with an eye firmly on the World Cup when Aaron Finch retired from the format last year.

The paceman said he was "potentially" interested in staying on after the tournament, but that the decision would rest with coach Andrew McDonald and head selector George Bailey's assessment of his workload and Australia's priorities.

"We've been pretty open, me and Andrew and George, around different times in the



Pat Cummins is unsure if he will continue as Australia's one-day captain after the World Cup.

year you're going to have different priorities," Cummins said on Tuesday. "After here, the focus shifts back to Test cricket for a fair while.

"Probably like we've done in the past, at times white-ball cricket is going to have to

shift so we fully focus on Test cricket, so yeah, there's no end date in sight.

"I feel like I've been managed really well and looked after, albeit in a really, really busy year where you don't really want to give up any

cricket." The captaincy of the T20 side was vacated when Finch retired from all international cricket in February, but Mitch Marsh is favourite to claim that role ahead of the World Cup in the Caribbean and US next June. However,

Cummins is keen to play a full part in that tournament, and signalled a return to the IPL next year after skipping it this year because of his busy schedule.

"I feel like I haven't played a heap of T20 cricket, and in some ways I feel like I haven't played my best T20 cricket for a little while," Cummins said. "I'm really excited. I'm probably going to go into the IPL auction for next year to try to get some games before that World Cup and push a case to not only make the side but get back to how I feel like I can bowl in T20 cricket."

Meanwhile, South African Morne Morkel has resigned as Pakistan's bowling coach, leaving the country's cricket board searching for a replacement ahead of the Test series in Australia starting next month. Pakistan finished fifth in the Cricket

World Cup standings with eight points having won four matches and losing five, with their final defeat by outgoing champions England on Saturday ruling them out of contention for the knockout stages of the tournament.

The former South Africa fast bowler had joined the team on a six-month contract in June.

"Pakistan Cricket Board will announce his replacement in due course," the board said in a short statement on Monday without providing any reason for Morkel's departure.

Morkel had joined the team for their two-match T20 series against Sri Lanka, which they won 2-0, before a one-day series against Afghanistan and the disappointing Asia Cup campaign.

The series against Australia runs from December 14 to January 7, 2024.



Kiwi quick Lockie Ferguson says correctly predicting how the Wankhede Stadium pitch will play is vital to beating India in Wednesday night's World Cup semi-final. Picture AP

Pitch call is crucial: Ferguson

WORLD CUP

NEW Zealand pace bowler Lockie Ferguson says they must accurately assess Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium pitch ahead of their World Cup semi-final against hosts India and look to tighten up their bowling at the traditionally high-scoring venue.

South Africa twice posted scores of 350-plus at the venue, India made 8-357 in their clash with Sri Lanka before Glenn Maxwell hit a superb double-century as Australia successfully chased down 291 against Afghanistan last week.

"A lot of Indian grounds have been high scoring," Ferguson told reporters in Mumbai before Wednesday night's clash.

"That's the nature of one-day cricket in this part of the world.

"It's trying to understand what the pitch will be like and read what a good score on it is because those big overs, 10 runs here

or there, can cost you at the back end of the innings. From a bowling point of view, we're trying to shut down the big overs, try to understand what we think is a good total. It's an experience thing. The pitch will be different ... it's hard to read two days out. We've got to adapt as quick as possible."

Ferguson said the statistics favoured batting first at the venue, with the Black Caps looking to knock India out of the World Cup semi-finals for a second straight edition.

"At the same time, it's not up to me and we have to play the game on the day," Ferguson added. "Whatever it might be - bat or bowl first - we've got plans for that.

"It's important to stick to them. Obviously, it's nice to bowl under lights, nice to see when the ball does move around a bit and it brings us into the game.

"We'll have to play it as we see it come game day, but I'm looking forward to it."

Forecast rain may force Cummins to rethink batting first

WORLD CUP

THE potential of a rare rain-affected match at the World Cup could add an extra layer to an otherwise simple toss call for Australia's crunch semi-final against South Africa.

Rain is forecast for Kolkata later in the week, causing a potential hurdle for Australia given they must win Thursday night's semi-final to progress.

A reserve day is available to complete the match if required, but further wet weather is predicted around the Eden Gardens ground on Friday as well.

Australia could consider themselves incredibly unlucky if both days were lost, given none of the previous 45 games have been washed out at this World Cup.

Still, the weather could in theory present an extra conundrum for Pat Cummins and South Africa counterpart Temba Bavuma at the toss.

Batting first has become increasingly popular at this World Cup, with the average score 8-289.

Such is the difficulty of chasing, the average 132-run winning margin for teams batting first in this tournament is the highest in World Cup history.

"The wickets have probably been two different wickets during the day and night," Australia quick Mitchell Starc said this week.

"It's certainly been more beneficial to swing the ball and nip the ball in the second innings, when the sun has gone down and we've been under lights a bit."

But the weather could



Pat Cummins will face a tricky decision if he wins the toss for Thursday's semi-final against South Africa. Picture AP

It's certainly been more beneficial to swing the ball and nip the ball in the second innings, when the sun has gone down.

Mitchell Starc

force a rethink. Chasing is generally a preferred option for teams in rain-affected games, where they are able to have a greater control over their own fate.

It would still be a bold call for Australia to send the Proteas in on Thursday, if Cummins calls correctly.

South Africa have won all five games when they have batted first in this tournament, passing 300 on every occasion and posting an average score of 6-375.

In their two losing chases,

they were bowled out for 83 and 207 by India and the Netherlands respectively.

"The toss of the coin obviously plays a part," Starc said.

"But it's not the be all and end all. We've won some games chasing in this tournament which is a big tick.

"Like everyone, they (South Africa) have had challenges chasing at night here in India.

"If they put us under pressure then we're in the same ballpark. If we end up bowling first we need to be mindful of the conditions and have a plan of attack."

Under ICC conditions, a match will be deemed complete on Thursday if 20 overs have been bowled in the second innings.

If the match has not progressed that far and rain hits, the game will be continued on Friday to get a result, with all scores carrying over from Thursday's play.

A similar situation played out in the 2019 World Cup, where New Zealand beat India by 18 runs on a second day in Manchester.

Gold Coast bowler wins game with six wickets in final over

CLUB CRICKET

IT TAKES something a bit special for an Australian third-grade cricketer to hit the headlines around the world, but Mudgeeraba's Gareth Morgan has made the news across the cricketing globe after an incredible match-winning feat for his team at the weekend.

Morgan, skipping Mudgeeraba Nerang & Districts Cricket Club against Surfers Paradise in the Gold Coast's Premier League Division Three, took six wickets in six balls to secure an ex-

I remember thinking after I got the hat-trick - I don't want to lose this game now.

Mudgeeraba captain Gareth Morgan

traordinary last-over victory on Saturday.

Surfers were 4-174 needing five runs to win, with one over remaining at the Carerra Community Centre venue.

Morgan toyed with the idea of giving one of his young lads the ball, but then

thought: "I'll bowl - they can hit the winning runs off me, this younger fella doesn't need that."

Off the first ball he had opener Jake Garland caught at midwicket for 65 trying to win to game with one hit.

Then Connor Matheson

and Surfers' captain Michael Curtin were also caught on the leg side to give Morgan a hat-trick.

"I remember thinking after I got the hat-trick - I don't want to lose this game now," Morgan told the ABC.

Wade McDougall was then caught at point before Riley Eckersley and Brodie Phelan were bowled, leaving non-striker Nicholas Bouwmeester stranded at the other end in disbelief.

"When I saw the stumps go back on the last ball I couldn't believe it - I've

never seen anything like it," Morgan said. "Everyone was going wild. It was incredible, I don't think anyone could believe it had happened."

Morgan finished with remarkable figures of 7-16 off seven overs.

The news gradually spread far beyond Queensland. The BBC led the British outlets highlighting Morgan's feat.

Websites as diverse as Reddit, Hong Kong-based BNN and North Carolina's BVM featured the yarn.

The most wickets taken in an over of professional crick-

et is five, achieved on three occasions: New Zealand's Neil Wagner did so playing for Otago in 2011; Al-Amin Hossain for a Bangladesh Cricket Board XI in 2013; and Abhimanyu Mithun for Indian state side Karnataka in 2019.

Morgan, it transpires, has already done that, in kid's cricket.

But his father Huw, who revealed this on the club's Facebook page, added: "He didn't get six, because there was only five wickets left at the start of the over."

The Canberra Times

SPORT

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Can Canberra sustain a triple threat?

Fans in the capital have called for an A-League team, an NBL franchise and a Big Bash side. But how much is too much?

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'We can dream': Sports meet to shape future vision for the AIS

INFRASTRUCTURE

Chris Dutton

ACT Sport Minister Yvette Berry has urged sports, businesses and community groups to be bold about the future of AIS after rallying key stakeholders to help shape a common vision for the Bruce campus.

Berry convened a meeting of community leaders on Tuesday in an attempt to generate ideas for an AIS revamp and mount arguments for its future in the capital as the ACT government

prepares its submission to a federal inquiry. The ideas - which ranged from greater community access to facilities, new accommodation, improved training facilities and collaboration with Canberra's university and health sectors - will form part of the government's final submission, which is due next week.

Berry also encouraged individual sporting bodies and groups, including the ACT Property Council and the National Capital Education Tourism Project, to add their weight to the argument

to ensure the facility remains in Canberra.

The federal government announced its latest review into the state of the AIS last month, with the panel to examine relocation options, existing facilities and required investment for upgrades.

"I think initially we were all fearful," Berry said. "Looking in more detail at the review and the questions it's asking, I feel like there is an opportunity right now for us to really take ownership of the whole thing and make it our own."

"Really explore the oppor-

tunities and hopefully get a commitment through this review that the federal government says this is an amazing chance to do something really amazing in our city. It's more than sport, much more than that."

Submissions to the review close on November 21, with a report to be presented to federal Infrastructure Minister Catherine King and Sport Minister Anika Wells by the end of the year.

The ACT government wants to partner with its federal counterparts to fund a

precinct revitalisation, which would include a new or upgraded stadium, accommodation, retail and hospitality outlets and a connection to the North Canberra Hospital.

But there are competing voices within the federal government lobbying for the AIS relocated to South East Queensland or decentralised and spread around the country.

The Australian Sports Commission - a federal government agency - has previously rejected the relocation prospect, citing the \$1 billion

cost of establishing facilities in Queensland.

In an attempt to strengthen the case for the AIS remaining in Canberra, Berry asked the invited groups to examine the institute's impact on Canberra's economic development, elite and community sports and business interests.

She flagged the prospect of partnering with the federal government and high-performance sports to make the institute a sought-after destination for athletes.

Continued Page 67